FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 NOVEMBER 1985

Israel

Comment on Air Battle — Israel is trying to avoid confrontations with the Syrians but if they try to interfere with Israeli reconnaissance flights over Lebanon the Israelis will have no alternative but to hit their planes, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin warned in remarks reported by Jerusalem television. Air Force Commander Major General 'Amos Lapidot provided more information about the dogfight with the Syrians in a Jerusalem radio interview, disclosing that the incident arose when Syrian fighters flew toward an Israeli patrol with "hostile purposes," forcing Israel to protect its patrol aircraft with additional fighters that were in the area. Noting that the battle began when the Israeli planes were over Lebanon and the Syrian fighters were over Syrian territory, he acknowledged that Israeli aircraft crossed into Syrian airspace during the dogfight "in order to continue the fight and not to endanger our planes." The Syrians have acted in a more daring and dangerous manner in recent weeks, Lapidot said, and on this occasion Israel "could no longer avoid reacting." Meanwhile, Israeli sources cited by IDF radio linked the incident with the Geneva summit, contending that the Syrians initiated the incident in order to make the Middle East a central issue in the U.S.-Soviet talks.

Political Developments — Even if the PLO recognizes Israel's right to exist, this would not be a significant move, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. He reaffirmed Israel's refusal to negotiate with the PLO, stressing that there is no change and no erosion in Israel's position. As for recent reports that the United States has softened its attitude toward the PLO, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told IDF radio that he would be "very surprised" if the United States decided to change its policy on the PLO, adding that he would be "even more surprised" if Prime Minister Peres agreed to this. Shamir also confirmed his opposition to Minister 'Ezer Weizman's proposed visit to Egypt, asserting that the trip should have been arranged through the Foreign Ministry and that Weizman is not a "contractor for Egyptian affairs in the Israeli Government."

Syria

Editorials in the papers *AL-BA'TH* and *TISHRIN*, cited by Damascus radio and SANA, did not acknowledge the downing of two Syrian planes but viewed the Israeli penetration of Syrian airspace as an attempt to provoke Syria.

A Syrian presidential spokesman cited by Radio Monte Carlo stressed Syria's opposition to a resumption of relations between the USSR and Israel as long as the latter is occupying Arab land. The radio viewed this statement as a denial of Israeli Prime Minister Peres' statement to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that "Syria and Jordan" have asked the USSR to resume ties with Israel. However, Peres told the committee that this proposal was made by Jordan and Egypt, according to an 18 November IDF radio report on Peres' remarks.

Lebanon

The archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy Terry Waite said on his return to Beirut that he has "new information" about the U.S. hostages, Beirut radio reported, adding that Waite declined to reveal the information. AFP noted that he had earlier appealed for the release of a French hostage who is said in an "unauthenticated" Islamic Jihad message to be "severely ill."

Iran-Iraq War

A General Command communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi planes "accurately and effectively" attacked a "very large maritime target" near the Iranian coast 19 November.

Gulf, Inter-Arab Affairs

The Omani information minister revealed that there is "no new mediation effort" in the Iran-Iraq war but there is a Gulf move to activate dialogue and improve relations with Iran, ONA reported. Speaking to the press following the Omani National Day celebrations, the minister also denied that Egyptian-Arab relations were on the GCC summit's agenda, contending that relations with Egypt must be handled by those concerned without "interference or mediation." Egypt's President Husni Mubarak met in Muscat with Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah, stating afterward that Egypt will restore ties with anyone who wants to do so, MENA reported. He denied reports on Egyptian contacts with Syria, though he added that Egypt would welcome such contacts.

Egypt-USSR Arms Negotiations

Citing an "informed Egyptian military source," Kuwait's *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM revealed that an Egyptian military delegation* left for Moscow 16 November on its second secret visit to the USSR. The paper maintained that, besides seeking to complete negotiations on spare parts for Soviet-made tanks and armored vehicles, the delegation will request SAM-9 and SAM-11 missiles for deployment on the "eastern front" with Israel.

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'Arafat Elaborates on Cairo Declaration, Egypt Visit

PM181421 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 13 Nov 85 p 3

[Unattributed report on a statement by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at a meeting of the NPUG Party Central Secretariat on 9 November in Cairo attended by Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf; PLO Executive Committee member Jamal al-Surani; Fatah Central Committee member Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid; 'Arafat political adviser Dr Nabil Sha'ath, the PLO representative in Cairo; and Abu Tayyib [Mahmud Ahmad al-Natur, Fatah Revolutionary Council member and Force 17 commander]]

[Excerpts] Abu Ammar ['Arafat] said: First I would like to thank my brother and teacher in military and political affairs, [NPUG leader] Khalid Muhi al-Din. I was under Khalid's command until I graduated as a reserve officer in the Egyptian Army. I wish to thank him for giving me this opportunity to meet with the comrades in struggle, here on Egyptian soil and among the heroic Egyptian people, who are stronger than their adversareis and the plots being hatched against them.

As you probably know, this visit to Cairo was the subject of prolonged debate on our side. Whereas your party loves debate, our revolutionary movement is one continuous session of discussions. The Palestinian revolution is a democratic movement and has certain characteristics similar to those of your party, particularly discussions and disagreement which end in the adoption of a democratic decision to which everybody adheres.

The most important event in this visit was the issuing of the "Cairo Declaration." Why? In order to understand this we must go back a little.

First, the PLO was the target of an unjust campaign after the incident of the Italian ship *Achille Lauro*, and even long before that.

This mad campaign concentrated on us, portraying us as a terrorist group. The campaign exploited the ship incident, and its timing was carefully chosen to cover up the U.S.-Israeli crime against the PLO and its headquarters in Hammam al-Shatt in Tunis. The campaign widened and included Britain, the EEC, the European Parliament, and the United Nations.

The Cairo Declaration is a Palestinian counteroffensive against the U.S.-Israeli campaign and plot.

The first important point in the statement is the clear and correct differentiation between armed struggle and resistance to Israeli aggression with all means — which is our right under the UN Charter and the resolutions adopted by the UN committee on anti-colonialism as well as the resolutions adopted at the conferences of the Nonaligned countries and the Geneva conference on the Palestinian problem — and terrorism, which the campaign is trying to blame on the PLO.

The second important point about this statement is that it was read in President Husni Mubarak's presence. We asked his permission to do so and he consented. It was a noble deed on his part to bear the consequences of this statement. The fact that he was present while the statement was being read means that he was saying yes or, at least, he was not against what the statement said. The Israeli newspaper *THE JERUSALEM POST* pointed out that this was the first time that Egypt, which signed the Camp David agreement, had supported the legality of struggle inside Palestinian territory.

The third important point concerns the U.S.-Israeli plan, which unfortunately some of the Arab countries accepted, and the question of an international conference. The U.S.-Israeli plan is based on direct Jordanian-Israeli negotiations without the PLO and without an international conference, but maybe under an international umbrella such as the Security Council — which would help King Husayn to resist pressure from the PLO.

The Cairo Declaration is a renewed Palestinian commitment to an international conference. From Cairo we declared in it the need for the Soviet Union's presence. Nobody, including the Egyptian Government, denies the special relations between Egypt and the United States. This, however, should not prevent our mentioning in the statement that the international conference should be attended by the Soviet Union, the United States, the other Security Council member-states, the parties to the conflict in the Middle East, and the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This is a clear Egyptian commitment to the international conference.

The international conference will not be held without Egypt, and Egypt says that there will be no international conference without the PLO. This is a matter of extreme importance. The attitude of the other two Arab parties toward the question of an international conference is different; Syria says 'no' to the PLO at an international conference, within the Nonaligned countries, or within the Arab group, while Jordan is being bargained with in order to abandon the PLO.

We will continue our military operations until our flag is raised over Jerusalem, since Jerusalem is the capital of the independent Palestinian state.

The problem is that Reagan insists on intervening directly in the Arab-Israeli conflict, not only in support of Israel or as its strategic ally but also as a party directly involved as President Johnson was involved in Vietnam.

The United States hijacked the Egyptian civilian airliner because Israel could not do so, because if it had done so that would have been considered an act of military violence against Egypt which would have undermined the Camp David agreement. For this reason, the United States, the "master," carried out the operation. We are on the threshold of a fierce battle — not an Israeli-Palestinian battle but a Palestinian-U.S. battle.

Has any one of you heard that the Amal organization or anybody else has carried out operations against Israel since the "Camp Murphy" agreement?

Yes, the outlines of the "Camp Murphy" agreements were laid down by McFarlane together with Hafiz al-Asad. McFarlane then finalized the agreement between Israel and the United States and between the United States and Syria. It has become

a tripartite agreement known as the Camp Murphy agreement. It provides for the non-return of the PLO fighters to southern Lebanon and the guaranteeing of Israel's northern borders against attacks by the Palestinians and their Lebanese allies.

The Jordanian-PLO agreement does not include a single concession; it did not stop our military operations. Israel says that the escalation of military operations in the occupied territories is due to the fact that the Palestinian command, by virtue of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, is issuing its orders from Amman.

It must be made clear that I am not a mercenary or a professional fighter. I am a revolutionary fighting for a political objective. I have been saying since 1974 that I carry the gun in one hand and the olive branch in the other.

Speaking about relations with Syria, 'Abu 'Ammar said that he welcomes any mediation with Damascus. He said: I would like to ask Damascus, which has accepted Elie Hubayqah [chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee], why does it not accept 'Arafat? According to them I am a potential traitor. Elie Hubayqah is an actual traitor, yet Damascus accepts him and does not accept 'Arafat. Let Damascus not accept 'Arafat, but let it accept Abu Iyad [Shalah Khalaf], Abu 'Umar [not further identified], or Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid].

Concluding his statement, Abu 'Ammar said: I consider my visit to Cairo an inherent part of the struggle; it will be followed up. Those who have issued statements against my visit to Cairo or against the Cairo Declaration have done so in accordance with Syrian orders. This visit will have no adverse effects on the unity of the Palestinian forces. Quite the opposite.

PLO's Hani al-Hasan Sees No Jordan-Israel Talks

LD201013 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0829 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Nov (KUNA) — In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper *AL-WATAN* published here today, the political adviser to the PLO chairman, Hani al-Hasan, discounted any chance of Jordan holding seperate bilateral talks with Israel. Such a step, he said, will require an Arab and a Palestinian umbrella. He added that for its part the PLO would not provide such an umbrella, although it will uphold the Amman agreement reached between the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships on 11 February of this year.

Hani al-Hasan described the Amman agreement as a joint document between Jordan and Palestine and not between any of the two parties on one hand and Israel on the other. He pointed out that the agreement supercedes the Fes program which was approved by the Arab summit in September 1982.

He said that the Ciaro Declaration calling for a halt to military operations outside the occupied Arab territories is a purely Palestinian declaration and not a joint Palestinian-Egyptian one, and that the aim behind it was to win Egypt over to the Palestinian Arab line.

Referring to the future of Palestinian national unity, Hani al-Hasan said that the doors for meeting and talking are open, and that there were no new internal differences on principles and established matters.

Hani al-Hasan stressed the importance of political action together with military action, citing in this respect the example of a bicyclist who needs both wheels in order to move forward.

He reiterated the PLO's rejection of terrorism and its support for the UN Charter, which says that peoples have the right to fight the occupation of their lands. He added that wherever there is occupation we practice resistance; it is not terrorism. We can do much against Israel, he said, because it is now living through its weakest times and Europe is for the first time objectively on our side.

"We [word indistinct] international equation. This equation provides for the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people and to set up their united state within a confederation with Jordan," he said, adding "if this equation and the fact that we are the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people were added to UN Security Council Resolution 242, then we would be prepared to discuss matters. But we refuse to recognize Resolution 242 in return for nothing."

PLO Radio Notes IZVESTIYA Article on 'Arafat

JN181847 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] The Soviet newspaper *IZVESTIYA* said that Yasir 'Arafat is fiercely and relentlessly standing against U.S. imperialism, that he is the archenemy of the United States and Israel. Therefore, the paper added, they are planning to kill him. This came in a long article under the headline "Yasir 'Arafat Is Symbol of Palestinian People's National Struggle" by the correspondent of the CPSU. The article says that 'Arafat's leadership of the Palestinian people has been consecrated over 20 years of persevering struggle, and there is no room for creating an alternative symbol to lead the Palestinian people. The Soviet paper said that the crater that the Israeli bombs made in front of 'Arafat's headquarters in Tunis was meant not only to kill him but also to kill the peace project that he represents.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Japanese Premier's Message

GF161627 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Manama, 16 Nov (WAKH) — HH the Amir of Bahrain Khalifah received a message from Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

The message was delivered by N. Fugo, the envoy of the Japanese premier during his reception by hh the amir today.

The Japanese envoy said that the message dealt with bilateral relations and means of promoting them in various fields.

"It also explained to h.h. the amir of Bahrain Japan's efforts to end the war between Iraq and Iran peacefully", he added.

The audience was attended by Bahrain's Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah and the Japanese ambassador to Bahrain.

The Japanese envoy arrived in Bahrain earlier today on a 2-day visit as part of a regional tour.

Amir Meets U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary

GF181606 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Manama, 18 Nov (WAKH) — HH the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received here today U.S. Defence Assistant Secretary Richard Armitage and his accompanying delegation currently visiting the country.

The audience was attended by Bahraini Premier Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Chief of Satff at the Bahraini Defence Force Brig Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah and the U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain Donald Leidel.

The U.S. official arrived here yesterday on a two-day visit to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Trade Agreement With USSR Draws Comment

USSR Minister Remarks

GF191553 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 18 Nov 85 p 9

[Exclusive statement by Ivan Grishin, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, to *AL-WATAN* correspondent Sulayman al-Khalid in Kuwait — date not given]

[Excerpts] Concerning the development of trade relations between Kuwait and the Soviet Union, Ivan Grishin, Soviet deputy minister of foreign trade, stated that trade relations between the two countries are strong and active, and that his country exports various types of machinery, industrial equipment, ships, and cars to Kuwait. He indicated that the trade agreement between the two countries constitutes the legal base of trade relations. He added that cordial political relations have existed between the two countries for a long time, but the absence of a legal document to organize trade relations has negatively affected the development of trade between the two countries.

The Soviet official added: Based on this, the Kuwaiti and Soviet sides worked hard to create this agreement to develop relations. The document of trade cooperation was actually prepared and signed. During the talks, the two sides reached a common view that this document will benefit both sides and pave the way for developing bilateral trade relations. The Soviet official stated that his country hopes that the state trade institutions in the Soviet Union will activate their business in the Kuwaiti market, especially since the two sides now possess the necessary capabilities to develop their relations in this direction.

Concerning the volume of trade between Kuwait and the Soviet Union, Ivan Grishin said: My country expects trade between the two countries to reach a total of approximately $30 million this year. We believe that this volume does not conform with the level of political relations between the Soviet Union and Kuwait and the accumulated capabilities to develop trade relations. However, we cannot reveal further information, because we agreed to continue our meetings and consultations to put this agreement into practical application.

Concerning whether the Soviet side has extended an invitation to Kuwaiti officials to visit the Soviet Union, the deputy minister of foreign trade pointed out that during the recent talks the two sides agreed on a visit by a Kuwaiti economic delegation to the Soviet Union shortly.

On whether the trade agreement signed between the Soviet Union and Kuwait recently reflects a new trend in Soviet trade policy in the Middle East, and the Gulf countries in particular, the Soviet official affirmed that preliminary talks were held to sign a trade agreement with Lebanon; it will consider the special situation witnessed by Lebanon.

Concerning the Arabian Gulf countries he said: Now that we have established political relations with a third country in the region, the UAE, we hope that the trade relations will develop in parallel with the political relations between the two countries.

Soviet Ambassador Comments

GF171744 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 16 Nov 85 p 1

[Text] Pogos Akopov, USSR ambassador to Kuwait, has declared that the trade agreement between Kuwait and the Soviet Union is the first in the history of the political and economic relations between the two countries.

In a statement to *AL-WATAN*, Akopov said that the agreement will provide new opportunities for developing future trade cooperation between Kuwait and Moscow.

Ambassador Akopov said that the agreement will be the basis on which the progress of trade will depend, and that it is a con-

structive means for boosting mutual cooperation between the two sides.

Finance and Economy Minister Jasim al-Khurafi signed the agreement on 14 November for the Kuwaiti side, and Ivan Grishin, USSR deputy minister for foreign trade, on behalf of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet official is due to leave the country tomorrow, Sunday, concluding the official visit which lasted several days.

Foreign Minister: UAE-USSR Ties 'Internal Affair'

LD171001 Kuwait KUNA in English 0906 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 17 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad has said that the UAE step in exchanging diplomatic missions with the Soviet Union was an internal affair.

He told daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AAM* published Sunday that the Gulf Cooperation Council summit in Muscat had nothing to do with that move which he hoped would be in the UAE best interests.

Shaykh Sabah hoped that reason would prevail in the end and the Iraq-Iran war would come to an end as soon as possible.

He highlighted in this respect that Iraq had repeatedly announced readiness to end fighting while Iran had always set preconditons.

The Kuwaiti chief diplomat underlined that encouraging signs were emanating from the Arab reconciliation committees and hoped that all Arab countries would reach understanding "because Arab unity and solidarity is badly needed at this stage."

Foreign Minister on Iran-Iraq War, GCC Summit

LD181401 Kuwait KUNA in English 1311 GMT 18 Nov 85

[By Saleh Nazzal]

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 18 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Monday reiterated continuous efforts by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states to halt the Iraq-Iran war.

In press statements today, the official underlined that in every meeting held by the six-member council, effort or mediation undertaken, the issue of ending this destructive war was at the center, if not at the fore, and indicated that the latest such effort was exerted by the GCC sixth summit in Muscat early this month.

Shaykh Sabah stated that Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah was still awaiting a decision by the Iranian Government to visit Tehran and continue discussions on the subject.

Earlier this month, the Omani minister resumed the mediation bids by visiting Baghdad where he conferred in length with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and other government officials.

On prospects for convening a long-delayed Arab summit, the acting premier and foreign minister said it all depended on the outcome of efforts being exerted by an Arab fence-mending committee and the measure of success it reaches in eliminating differences and clearing up the Arab atmosphere.

He indicated that the committee was continuing its role and endeavours to this end and hoped success to convene the summit "particularly that we need such a conference under the difficult and crucial circumstances now passed by the Arab nation." The official noted.

On reports of possible convening of the Arab summit in Tunisia, Shaykh Sabah said "the important question is that the summit meets...anywhere...because the venue is not that important as the event itself."

OMAN

Mubarak Continues Contacts With World Leaders

Receives Message From YAR

NC171619 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1537 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 17 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a meeting this evening in his quarters at Al-Bastun Palace in Muscat with YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani. 'Abd al-Ghani handed Mubarak a message from YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

It has been learned that the note deals with bilateral relations and the latest developments in the Arab region and in the world at large.

On Meeting Saudi Prince

NC191054 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 19 Nov (MENA) — In a statement to newsmen today, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak said: [Saudi Crown] Prince 'Abdallah is a brother and an old friend. During our meeting, we discussed every issue in the Arab world, including the Palestinian question and pan-Arab relations. When asked if efforts are being made to clear the way for Egypt's return, and if this will be accomplished by a summit or on a bilateral basis, President Mubarak replied: The Arab states were the ones who severed relations with Egypt. As for claims that Egypt is seeking this, I say that we are not seeking anything. Anyone who wants to restore relations with us is most welcome to do so. We are playing our part and doing our duty as far as the Arab causes are concerned without waiting for the restoration of ties with the Arabs.

On his meeting with Prince 'Abdallah, President Mubarak pointed out: Our discussion focused on several issues, with no specific emphasis on any particular point.

When asked about contacts between Egypt and Syria, and reports about a Syrian envoy's visit to Egypt, President Mubarak responded: There is no envoy and there are no contacts between us. However, he added, we would welcome such contacts.

President Mubarak had this to say about the rapprochement between Syria and Jordan: We support any rapprochement between Arab states that serves the public interest. We will consolidate and promote such forms of rapprochement. In no way am I against it; I just hope that it will serve both the public interest and the Arab causes.

Meets Kuwait Heir Apparent

NC191153 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1103 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 19 Nov (MENA) — At 1330 Muscat local time, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received His Royal Highness Prince Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, who is leading his country's delegation here. The meeting took place at President Mubarak's residence in Al-Bustan Palace. The 40-minute session was also attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Kuwaiti Minister of Information Shaykh Nasir al-Sabah; Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, Kuwaiti minister of state for Cabinet affairs; and the Kuwaiti ambassador to Oman were present as well.

Meets Sultan Qabus

NC191356 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 19 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan, at 1615 today in his residence in Al-Bustan Palace. The meeting was attended by Fahd ibn Mahmud al Sa'id, deputy prime minister for legal affairs, and Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Confers With King Husayn

NC191420 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 19 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received King Husayn of Jordan this evening at his residence in Al-Bustan Palace.

This is the second meeting between the two since their arrival in Muscat to attend celebrations marking the 15th anniversary of the Sultanate of Oman.

King Husayn Meets Arab, Other Officials

JN191339 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat — His Majesty King Husayn has continued his meetings with the heads of the delegations participating in the celebrations of the Sultanate of Oman s 15th National Day. His majesty received at his place of residence thic morning the Austrian foreign minister and Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom accompanied by the Maldivian foreign minister.

His majesty the king received General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council [TMC], accompanied by TMC member Hamadah 'Abd al-'Azim and Sudanese Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub. His majesty also received Abu Dhabi Heir Apparent Khalifah ibn Zaydi accompanied by the UAE president's representative, Ahmad Khalifah al-Suwyadi, and UAE Labor and Social Affairs Minister Khalifah ar-Rumi.

The king also received the duke of Kent, head of the British delegation participating in Oman's celebrations; and His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkian of Brunei. Later, his majesty received former U.S. President Gerald Ford, head of the U.S. delegation; and Kuwaiti Heir Apparent Sa'd al-'Abdallah, Kuwaiti prime minister; accompanied by Information Minister Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Sabah; and Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, Kuwaiti minister of state for Cabinet affairs.

Meets Gandhi, FRG Official

JN181717 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Excerpt] King Husayn today received at his residence in Muscat Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was accompanied by the energy minister, Foreign Ministry secretary general, and Indian ambassador in Muscat. His majesty also received Shaykh Muhammad ibn Hamad, Qatari education minister and head of Qatar's delegation to Oman's celebrations. His Majesty then received FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Attending the meetings were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

Pakistan's Zia Addresses Pakistanis in Muscat

BK190311 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that Pakistan is marching ahead on the path of democracy. He reiterated that martial law will be lifted by the end of this year. Addressing a large gathering of Pakistanis in Muscat yesterday, he said the military government has taken steps to voluntarily transfer power to the people's representatives. The president said there should not be any fear of any untoward incidents following the lifting of martial law. The situation will remain normal, he added.

Referring to the Afghanistan problem, the president reiterated the call for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan. He said the Afghan problem can be solved on the basis of the four principles which have been outlined in the resolutions of the United Nations and the Islamic Conference Organization. This is a political problem and should be resolved only through a political procedure. The key to the settlement of the Afghanistan problem lies in the Soviet Union, he observed.

The president said Pakistan desires to see an end to the Iran-Iraq war so that the resources of the Islamic community are not wasted.

About relations with India, the president said Pakistan desires to establish good-neighborly relations with India on the basis of mutual respect and sovereign equality. He also referred to his talks with the Indian prime minister in Muscat which were held in a cordial atmosphere to improve bilateral relations. However, he noted that certain irresponsible statements made by India on certain occasions affect the process of normalization of the situation.

The president also informed the Pakistanis about the economic situation of the country and assured them that the overall economic situation is good and that cotton and rice production has been good this year. He called on the overseas Pakistanis to boost Pakistan's image as a charitable Islamic state.

Kuwaiti Prime Minister Meets With Arab Leaders

LD191856 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] At 1000 today His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti crown prince and prime minister, visited his brother His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman, at his majesty's residence at Al-'Alam Palace. At 1045 his highness received, at his residence in Al-Bustan Palace, his brother His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the Royal Guards of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. At 1130 his highness paid a visit to his brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, at the latter's residence at Al-Bustan Palace. At 1200 His highness paid a visit to His Excellency General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council of the Democratic Republic of Sudan. At 1230 his highness the crown prince and prime minister paid a visit to his brother His Excellency President Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, at the latter's residence at Al-Bustan Palace.

All these meetings took place in the presence of Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, minister of state for Cabinet affairs; Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad, minister of information; Shaykh Jabir Mubarak al-Hamad, governor of Al-Ahmadi region; Major General 'Abd al-Latif Faysal al-Tuwayni, adviser at the amir's office; 'Abd al-Latif 'Abd al-Rahman al-Bahar, director of Offices of the Crown Prince and Prime Minister; and 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wahab al-'Uthman, ambassador of the State of Kuwait to the Sultanate of Oman,

Information Minister Holds Press Conference

GF191641 Muscat ONA in Arabic 1050 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas, at 0700 GMT today, held a press conference at the Sheraton Hotel. During the conference, he talked to local, Arab, and foreign press and media representatives covering the Sultanate's celebrations on the 15th anniversary of its glorious National Day. The information minister also discussed the most important local, Arab, and international issues including up to minute events in the international arena.

Responding to a question on reports that the GCC leaders have made a resolution concerning Gulf-Egyptian relations and that Sultan Qabus will convey this information to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, the information minister stated: I would like to note that Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id's government and all the Omani people consider Egypt — government and people — to be the big brother and tributory of the Arab nation. The exit of Egypt — the determining factor — from the Arab arena has caused a considerable defect in the equilibrium of the Arab body.

The government of Sultan Qabus adheres to this and always tries to appraise and rectify it so that Egypt will rejoin the Arab fold, which would benefit from its return. I would like to add that the return of Egyptian-Arab relations was not on the sixth GCC summit's agenda and I know nothing of it. I know very well that the fraternal Egyptian Republic has deep-rooted and continuous relations and contacts with its fraternal Arab states on more than one level and in more than one field. There is no justification for any kind of interference or mediation because the channels are operative and contacts exist. However, authorizing relations is an issue to be dealt with by those concerned.

On the dangers of the Iraq-Iran war, its continuation, and the good efforts made by the foreign minister in a Gulf attempt to contain the war, the information minister said: We all know the Iraq-Iran war's evils and the evils of its continuation. The war is destructive, as described by Sultan Qabus in his speech yesterday. It wastes the two countries's resources and encompasses the region with the spectre of spreading danger. The war threatens international peace in general, because of the region's important strategic status due to its oil reserves, and because world economies depend on the region for exports that undoubtedly contribute toward national economies.

I would like to state that there is no new mediation effort to try to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war. However, there is a Gulf move to activate dialogue and improve relations with Iran to prepare an atmosphere for discussions and to learn the extent of what can be done to put an end to the war gradually or conclusively. Work must be done to break the deadlock through efforts and mediation. All are eager to continue the positive horizons of the Islamic good office's efforts, which have absolute support. However, there must be supporting moves to activate this role so that we are cognizant of the opinions of the conflicting sides. In this regard we would like to repeat what Sultan Qabus reiterated in his speech yesterday when he urged both warring sides to work toward saving their resources and capabilities from being dissipated haphazardly.

The war has impeded the economic and development march in the two countries and has set them back tens of years. It has done away with thousands of innocent souls. It threatens international navigation in an important and vital region where the world has interrelated interests. The world will not allow the destruction of its interests without intervening. Such intervention would not be in the interest of anyone. From this premise stems the Gulf states' efforts following the GCC summit in Muscat — a trend toward

crystallizing a Gulf-Iranian dialogue to activate bilateral relations, and to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

On international terrorism and whether the Sultanate cooperates with the United States in this regard, the information minister said: The government of his majesty, along with freedom-and peace-loving countries, resists all acts of violence and terrorism. In his speech delivered yesterday, his majesty appealed to the leaders of all world countries to resist this phenomenon, considered a threat to international peace.

Concerning the extent of the coordination with the United Staes, he said: Actually, terrorism is a horrible act rejected by all sides and by all divine and earthly norms. He stated that it is the principle of his majesty's government to coordinate with everyone, without exception, to contain the threat of terrorism and to liquidate its causative factors, regardless of the circumstances. In this regard the minister added: I do not have the details on what took place between former U.S. President Gerald Ford and his majesty the sultan. If they did discuss this matter [not further identified], then it would have been in passing. There is no joint programmed plan between us and the United States in this regard.

Asked about the issue of exchanging ambassadors between the Sultanate and the PDRY, the information minister said that diplomatic relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY exist. He stated that ambassadors between the two countries have been named and that each ambassador will deliver his credentials within a month.

Concerning the non-participation of Iraq, Iran, and the Soviet Union in the Sultanate's glorious National Day celebrations, the information minister said: Participation in the Sultanate's celebration of the 15th anniversary of its glorious National Day by fraternal and friendly countries was in the form of initiatives and invitations based on those initiatives. Iraq and Iran were represented through their embassies in Oman. There were no official delegations from Baghdad or Tehran because they have diplomatic corps which represented them in the celebrations. It is too soon for the Soviet Union to participate in the celebrations; the Soviet Union did not name an ambassador to patronize its delegation.

On Soviet relations with the Sultanate and the UAE and whether it is part of a Gulf coordination, 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas said: The establishment of relations between the Sultanate and the Soviet Union is a decision stemming from the Omani supreme national interest and not from a unified Gulf decision, with all respect to the current Gulf coordination and our commitment to it. He said: Bilateral relations between one state and another is a joint issue which in the end is intended to expand the scope of Gulf and non-Gulf relations. Our decision to establish relations with the Soviet Union is a 100 percent Omani decision governed by Oman's supreme national interest, by its appreciation of circumstances and political changes on the international level, and by its convictions based on the principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of the other and the principle of mutual respect for national sovereignty on one's land. The Soviet Union has shown its good intention to implement this principle. The minister said: Out of this framework and following 2 years of contacts between the Soviet leaders and his majesty and his government, and meetings held in this regard on more than one level, a true Omani conviction emerged that it is about time we established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. This is to achieve the principle of political balance in the international arena, so that we can convince the entire world of our just issues — whether they are the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war or the achievement of peace in the Middle East — and so that we can receive information from the sources on the conflict between the two superpowers in the international arena.

He added: We are convinced that the Soviet Union currently desires to crystallize its relations with other Gulf countries. We do not call upon any country to establish diplomatic relations with another. This matter concerns the sovereignty of each country.

The information minister was asked about the general concept and broad lines of the third 5-year development plan, which is to be implemented in the Sultanate beginning next year. His excellency stated that the third 5-year plan is to complete the first and the second 5-year plans, which were designed to complete the basic structure. The third 5-year plan is also designed to face the inevitable growth in fields of education, health, communications, and roads, as defined by his majesty the sultan yesterday, because these basic issues are of primary concern to the Omani individual. The operation of communications and roads are integral factors of inevitable growth also, because they are necessary to connect the networks of roads and communications services in all of Oman; they are the foundations of a modern state.

Responding to a question on the meetings held by His Majesty Sultan Qabus Al Bu Sa'id with President Husni Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn, particularly after the Palestinian Cairo Declaration, his excellency indicated that the meetings were of a fraternal nature and characterized by a unity of direction, an honesty of determination, a clarity of opinions, and the readiness of all sides to crystallize a collective Arab endeavor capable of putting an end to the sufferings of the Palestinian people, who have suffered dispersion, confusion, and persecution for many years.

The information minister added that the Cairo Declaration is a matter that concerns the PLO and that any act to correct or improve the image of the Arab individual is appreciated by all.

On navigation in the Hormuz Strait, 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas stated that the subject has two parts — navigation in the Hormuz and the entire Arab Gulf region and the GCC states' endeavor to limit the recent escalation in the war in which ships have been hijacked, intercepted, or hit in one way or another. All of these factors have actually led to the escalation of the war, which has cast the shadow of expansion over the Gulf region, and even beyond the Gulf region. Small confrontations have occurred when Iran has tried to intercept foreign ships and military ships have intervened. It is a dangerous question — if the war expands and goes beyond the narrow circle of the Gulf region to become, God forbid, a big spark extending its threats to the entire world. This is what we are trying to avoid as much as possible, with all capabilities whatever their cost.

Navigation in Hormuz is controlled by international laws and regulations, because, as you know, the strait is subject to the laws of free passage, the law applied on the upper oceans. Based on this, navigation in the strait is controlled by these laws and by the interest of countries in general. We do not expect anyone to try to halt navigation through the Hormuz Strait in any way, because this would have severe consequences and everyone knows this. We do not expect that anyone would take such a step. God forbid, if anything like that would happen it would be an issue for consultation among the leaders of the GCC states and other world countries having joint interests in the region.

During the press conference, the information minister clarified the Sultanate's stance on supporting international mediation efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war. In this regard he said: We have all heard the speech of his majesty the sultan in which he called upon the leaders of the two countries to give a chance to the international and Islamic efforts and all the other efforts to put an end to the war. The Sultanate supports any side that endeavors to put an end to the war.

Concerning the participation of the Soviet Union in an international conference on the Palestinian issue, his excellency said: We support by all means any Arab or international effort that can bring us closer to our objective, represented by a just and honorable end to the cause of the Palestinian people. Therefore, we support the Soviet Union's participation in an international conference that can achieve this objective. This was declared by the government of his majesty at the United Nations and in many other platforms. Our policy is not convulsive or mysterious and our interests are clear. We had disturbed relations with the Soviet Union. During the past decade, these disturbed relations were due to direct interference by the Soviet Union in our domestic issues; we were directly threatened by the Soviet Union. After overcoming the attempts of the Soviet Union, and after the new course of the Soviet leadership, we became convinced that there is a new trend in Soviet policy. This new trend prompted us to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. These relations are not established in any way at the expense of our Arab and international relations. Omani policy relies on constant grounds represented by respect for national sovereignty, mutual interests among nations, good neighborliness, peaceful coexistence, and noninterference in the local affairs of other states.

The information minister responded to a question on whether it is time to expand the framework of the GCC to include all of the countries of the Arabian Peninsula. He said: The GCC is not an alternative to the Arab League and it is not a regional bloc that curtails the participation of the GCC countries or prevents them from fulfilling their Arab commitments. The GCC countries will always remain loyal to all commitments and will remain a part of the greater Arab homeland. Arab unity is a noble hope that everyone strives to achieve.

Concerning the participation of Arabian Peninsula countries in the GCC, His Excellency 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas said: All these countries have a common destiny and share the same geographical area, but the GCC specified the membership of only six states which are politically, economically, and socially homogeneous.

On the proposed oil pipeline to stretch from the GCC countries to the Sultanate of Oman, his excellency the information minister said: This project was proposed to avoid the passage of the GCC oil through the Strait of Hormuz. Oman was asked to allow the oil pipeline to pass from the GCC countries through its territory. In principle, Oman has no objection to its sister countries utilizing its geographical depth, if the matter does not harm the economies and policies of these countries. The government of his majesty welcomes the proposal, which is now under technical study by the GCC General Secretariat. I do not think that any positive steps have been crystallized in this direction.

QATAR

British Minister on Relations, Iraq-Iran War

GF161756 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Doha, 16 Nov (WAKH) — The British state minister for foreign affairs said that relations between his country and Qatar are strong.

In a statement to Qatari daily *AL-RAYAH*, the British official said that points spelled out by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Ceullar were a solid base to solve the Iraq-Iran war if both belligerent sides agree to end the war between them.

He denied that his country supplied weapons to any of the warring countries.

He added that his country does not oppose the holding of an international conference to discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict if good preparations for the conference were made.

Armed Forces Delegation Leaves for Spain

GF181600 Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Doha, 18 Nov (WAKH) — Deputy Commander in Chief of the Qatari Armed Forces, Brigadier Muhammad 'Abdallah al-'Attiyah left here this morning for Madrid heading a military delegation on a week long official visit to Spain.

The Qatari delegation includes Staff Colonel Shaykh Muhammad Ibn Sa'ud Al Thani, the director of military operations, planning and organisation at the General Command, in addition to a number of senior officers from the Armed Forces.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister on Gulf War, Riyadh Summit

GF171855 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 16 Nov 85 pp 1, 23

[Text] Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal affirmed that the GCC states are constantly making efforts to put an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war and said that this can be achieved only by the two sides in the conflict. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal added that everybody knows that Iraq has expressed its readiness to end this war and that Iraq will honor its words.

He said: Everyone now wants to know the Iranian stance, particularly after the efforts and attempts that were made and are still being made in order to end the war. As I said, the GCC states are interested in the end of this war.

Asked if Saudi Arabia has dismissed the idea of holding the summit conference in Riyadh, he said: Saudi Arabia has not dismissed the convention of the summit conference in Riyadh; the invitation still exists, but we are waiting for the results of the work of the committee for reconciliation and clearing the Arab atmosphere. After that the work of the committee will be assessed.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal did not give a date for convening the upcoming Arab summit, but he affirmed that Saudi Arabia has not canceled its convening in Riyadh.

UAE

Heir Apparent on Security, Egypt, Arab Unity

GF141740 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Nov (WAKH) — Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces, has stated that Gulf security is an indivisible part of Arab security and that the basis of Gulf security is unity among the region's countries in order to preserve the sovereignty, independence, and gains of their people. He said he rejects all forms of foreign intervention and that he supports all efforts to keep the region away from superpower conflicts.

In a statement published in the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* and the Omani newspaper *'UMAN* today, Shaykh Khalifah said: The UAE is always eager to restore Arab solidarity and provide the favorable means to reactivate joint Arab action stemming from the firm stand the UAE adopts on all Arab issues in general. He said Egypt's return to the Arabs is the wish of every Arab; the Arabs are looking forward to the day when Egypt will resume its membership in the Arab League, because Egypt cannot do without its Arab nation, nor can this nation do without Egypt.

Shaykh Khalifah noted the motives which made the UAE issue the conscription law and said: Since its establishment, the UAE has adopted a firm policy of seeking factors of intrinsic strength which will protect this edifice so that it will continue to be secure and stable. This requires a strong armed forces which possesses the best weapons, out of the conviction that UAE security is part of Gulf security and is a part of the chain of national Arab security, he added.

Shaykh Khalifah affirmed that the Gulf countries will continue their unabated efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war and that they hope that the leaders of the two countries will respond to these efforts. The UAE is anxious to make efforts to restore Arab solidarity and it believes that utmost efforts should be made in order to convene the upcoming Arab summit in Riyadh as soon as possible, he said.

Regarding the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. summit, Shaykh Khalifah said: The occupied territories will not be liberated through reliance on the West or the East; the two superpowers will not enter into conflict for the sake of Arab rights; and lands can only be liberated through Arab unity. Bargaining on the Reagan-Gorbachev summit is a state which the Arab nation has reached in the absence of Arab unity. The only bargaining the Arabs should make is on their intrinsic strength and the need to enhance this strength.

Ra's al-Khaymah Leader on Iran-Iraq War

GF192000 Manama WAKH in English 1605 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 19 Nov (WAKH) — Member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of Ra's al-Khaymah Shaykh Saqar ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi described his country's relations with Oman as "historical and deep-rooted."

In a statement published today by the Omani daily *'UMAN* and UAE daily *AL-ITTIHAD*, Al-Qasimi asserted the necessity of halting the Iran-Iraq war.

Shaykh al-Qasimi called on Iran to respond to peace efforts exerted to end this malicious war.

Shaykh Saqar expressed his optimism over the defence and security strategies adopted by the GCC leaders in their last summit held in Muscat.

"It is an important step towards achieving peace and security in the region," he added.

"It is not directed against any one, but it aims at building our self defence capability so we can shoulder our responsibility against any danger facing the region," Shaykh Saqar said.

Shaykh Saqar expressed his support for the Gulf security strategy because it will allow collective confrontation of terrorism.

The gap between Egypt and other Arab states led to the current Arab situation, Shaykh Saqar said.

"The stand of Egypt leadership urges us to call it to return to the Arab fold."

Trade Delegation Leaves for USSR, Denmark

GF161352 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0535 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Nov (WAKH) — A senior UAE trade delegation led by Haj 'Abdallah al-Muhayribi, first deputy chairman of the Board of Directors of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, left Abu Dhabi today [14 November] on a 10-day visit to Moscow and Copenhagen. During its visit, the delegation will hold talks to strengthen trade relations with both the Soviet Union and Denmark.

Haj al-Muhayribi stated that the delegation's visit to the Soviet Union and Denmark is in response to invitations received by the chamber over the past 2 years. It is hoped the visits will strengthen the role of businessmen in establishing trade ties

between the UAE and both the Soviet Union and Denmark so as to widen the scope of cooperation and establish economic relations based on mutual understanding.

In a statement to WAM, Al-Muhayribi said: Abu Dhabi's imports from the Eastern bloc countries are increasing steadily, yet there was a great fall in imports during the 1980 to 1984 period. In 1984 imports totaled 638,000 dirhams, compared with about 5.5 million dirhams in 1981.

Al-Muhayribi said: We seek to move the relations of economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Abu Dhabi from the framework of buyer and seller — a framework that serves the interest of only some groups — to other areas of cooperation which are more important and vital. We want to establish joint projects to bring about a qualitative jump in future cooperation between the countries.

Referring to the transfer of technology from the Soviet Union, Al-Muhayribi stated that such a transfer should be arranged according to reasonable conditions and be free from traditional methods based on economic subservience, and should be "viewed as part of the new international economic order which Third World countries seek to establish."

Referring to trade relations between the UAE and Denmark, Al-Muhayribi stated that there has been great development in these relations in recent years. He noted that the UAE's imports from West European countries are constantly falling, while Abu Dhabi's imports from Denmark are growing; in 1984 Abu Dhabi's imports from Denmark totaled 48 million dirhams compared with 16.8 million dirhams in 1981.

A Soviet trade delegation led by Mardoniyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, had visited the UAE in December 1983 and held talks with officials of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other bodies in the UAE.

Plane Crash Kills Pilot on Training Mission

GF170826 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1708 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Nov (WAM) — Pilot Lieutenant 'Adil Sadiq Muhammad Sami' was martyred while carrying out his national duty when the fighter plane he was flying during a routine training mission crashed at 0930 [0630 GMT] today.

PDRY

Chairman Receives Message From Soviet Leaders

GF191341 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Congress Presidium, received a written message from the Soviet leadership delaing with regional, Arab, and international issues and the ways of strengthening joint work toward them.

The brother secretary general received the message today during a meeting in his office with Comrade Vladislav [Zhukov], Soviet ambassador to Aden. During the meeting, attended by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, views were exchanged on relations between the two friendly countries and the ways to reinforce them, as well as the course of implementing the economic projects being carried out in the PDRY by the friendly Soviet Union. The brother secretary general expressed appreciation for the content of the Soviet leadership's message and affirmed the PDRY's commitment to its responsibilities to events taking place on regional, Arab, and international levels toward strengthening stability and peace in the region and the world. He asked the comrade ambassador to convey his greetings and the greetings of the YSP Central Committee, the Political Bureau, and the Supreme People's Council Presidium to the Soviet leadership and Comrade Gorbachev personally, wishing success to the great efforts made by the Soviet Union to keep humanity from the disaster of nuclear war and ensure comprehensive peace for our world and wishing that the Geneva summit will achieve positive results toward this end.

Chairman Cables Congratulations to Oman's Sultan

GF180855 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, has sent a congratulatory cable to brother, His Highness Qabus ibn Sa'id ibn Taymur, the sultan of Oman, on the occasion of his country's National Day. The cable says: On the occasion of fraternal Oman's National Day, I take pleasure in conveying to you — in my name and in the name of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council — the best heartfelt congratulations. I wish you good health. I also hope that the relations between our peoples and countries will continue to progress and flourish.

Chairman Receives PFLP Representative to Aden

GF191614 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, met in his office today with Brother Ihab Amin Yunis, member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the new representative of the front in Aden. During the meeting, views were exchanged on bilateral relations between the YSP and the PFLP, as well as on the current situation in the Palestinian arena.

Chairman Meets Lebanese Communist Figure

GF161332 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received in his office today Brother Nasir

Al-As'ad, member of the Political Bureau of the Lebanese Communist Action Organization. During the meeting, they exchanged views on relations between the YSP and the Lebanese Communist Action Organization and ways to promote them. They also reviewed the situation on the Lebanese arena. Brother Nasir al-As'ad briefed Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad in detail on the current situation in the Lebanese arena and the acceleration of confrontation of the Zionist occupation forces by the nationalists.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad renewed the stand of the YSP and the revolution's government, which supports the struggle of the Lebanese nationalist movement and the strenthening of its role to repulse Zionist occupation and to achieve the total liberation of Lebanese territory, in the direction of a unified and independent Arab Lebanon, which will play its role to serve the aims of the Arab nation.

Prime Minister Returns From Muscat 19 Nov
GF191318 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, and the accompanying delegation arrived in Sanaa today from Muscat after participating in the ceremonies marking the 15th anniversary of fraternal Oman's National Day.

YAR

Tunisian Prime Minister Arrives 19 Nov
GF191307 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali arrived in Sanaa today on an official visit to our country to last several days, in response to an invitation by Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee. The fraternal Tunisian guest was given a big official reception. Foremost among those who received him as he exited his plane were Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani; Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister and member of the Standing ccommittee; Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee; Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, deputy prime minister, minister of development, and head of the Central Organ of Planning; Mujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy prime minister for internal affairs and member of the Standing Committee; and 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, general chief of staff and member of the Standing Committee.

Meets Prime Minister
GF200704 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, this afternoon received his brother Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and interior minister, who is currently visiting our country.

The first session of talks was held between our country and fraternal Tunisia led by brothers 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, and Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and interior minister. At the beginning of the session brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani welcomed his brother Mohamed Mzali and the delegation accompanying him.

Brother Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and interior minister, arrived in Sanaa this morning on a few days' visit to our country.

Received by President
GF200751 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, last night received in his office at the presidential palace brother Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and interior minister in fraternal Tunisia, who conveyed to him the greetings of his brother, the struggler Habib Bourguiba, president of Tunisia.

They reviewed relations between the two fraternal countries and the means of promoting them, in addition to discussing the current Arab situation.

The brother leader president and secretary general welcomed the Tunisian prime minister and the delegation accompanying him. He hoped that they will have a good stay in their second country. He expressed satisfaction with the development and growth of relations of cooperation between the two countries.

The brother leader president and secretary general asked brother Mohamed Mzali to convey his greetings to his brother, the struggler Habib Bourguiba.

Algerian Official Departs Sanaa 19 Nov
GF191950 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Sanaa, 19 Nov (WAKH) — [Algerian] Finance Minister Mustafa Benamar [as received] left Sanaa today.

During the visit he led his country's side to the meeting of the joint Yemeni-Algerian committee for economic and technical cooperation.

The Algerian official said that he delivered a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of North Yemen.

He also held talks with Yemeni officials on information, cultural, and economic fields.

Military Delegation Said To Make 2d USSR Trip

GF200733 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 18 Nov 85 pp 1, 21

[Text] According to an informed Egyptian military source, *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* has learned that the military delegation which secretly visited Moscow recently, left again for Moscow on Saturday with the same delegation members. During the visit, the delegation members will complete their negotiations with the Soviet military leadership with regard to preparing a timetable for importing some special spare parts for Soviet-made tanks and armored vehicles.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM has also learned that the military delegation which left for Moscow on a 1-week secret visit is carrying a request from the political leadership to the Soviet leadership on the possibility of setting up a new defense wall comprised of SAM-9 and SAM-11 missiles on the eastern borders of Egypt, in the region between Suez and Port Sa'id, which is part of the eastern front with Israel.

The Egyptian request states: "The defense system in Egypt is based primarily on Soviet SAM missiles and Egypt desires to strengthen its defense system with those missiles, so that this wall can be similar to the Syrian air defense wall."

Mubarak Interviewed on Ties with Arab States

LD201026 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 20 Nov (KUNA) — President Husni Mubarak has described his countries' relations with the Arab countries n general and with the GCC member-countries in particular as being founded on a clear basis: Constant work for all that will bring good to the Arab nation. He pointed out that the growing economic, cultural and [word indistinct] relations between Egypt and the six GCC member-countries are constantly improving. He expressed his hope that the coming days will witness the ending of the freeze in diplomatic relations between the two sides.

However, President Mubarak pointed out in his exclusive statement to the Kuwaiti *AL-SIYASAH*, following his meeting with Kuwaiti Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah that "Egypt has its pride and dignity, and that those who (?wish to sever) relations with it should do so. Egypt will continue to be the heart of the Arab nation, and what pains any Arab will pain Egypt. We will not run after anyone, but our doors are open, prefaced by our hearts, to all Arabs."

President Mubarak added that he was happy to meet with the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister at Al-Bustan Palace and that he had exchanged views with him concerning all matters pertaining to Egyptian-Kuwaiti relations and their importance to the growth and prosperity of both countries in all fields.

President Mubarak said that he discussed with Arab officials in Oman the importance of the restoration of Arab solidarity because the Arab nation can become strong only through cohesion and solidarity.

President Mubarak expressed his hope that the Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement will not take place at the expense of the Palestine issue and the independence of the Palestine decision-making. However, he affirmed his confidence "that King Husayn realizes the importance [word indistinct], and that Egypt blesses any inter-Arab rapprochement which will eventually reflect itself in the Arab ranks and contribute to strengthening and enhancing its cohesion.

Referring to the USSR-U.S. summit, President Mubarak said "We are not optimistic about summit results," which he said "will not provide any fruitful results." He pointed out that the summit [word indistinct] to the attempt to create a rapprochement between the superpowers with a view to creating a balance between the Eastern and Western camps.

'Abd al-Majid on U.S., European Attitudes

PM181329 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 8 Nov 85 pp 20-21

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid by Fumil Labib; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Before we discuss the U.S. role, do you believe that the steps taken by the United States are sufficient to erase the aggression it committed against the Egyptian civil airliner?

Answer: It was felt that the United States had wronged Egypt. Egypt made that clear in President Husni Mubarak's letters to President Reagan. Some steps were later taken by the United States. I received a letter from Secretary of State George Shultz, and a high-ranking official came here and declared that the United States "very much regretted" the turn of events.

Question: Some Arabic papers are saying that there was no regret and that there was no U.S. apology.

Answer: We have made a habit of ignoring what certain Arab papers say.

Question: Are words [of U.S. envoy Whitehead] enough to erase the U.S. mistake, which is in fact considered a crime by all legal standards?

Answer: The Americans have taken some steps toward us. We consider these to be initial steps which we hope will be followed by other steps on their part. Furthermore, it will take time for the traditional friendship to be restored.

Question: Despite what the United States did against us, the media there have been attacking us fiercely.

Answer: Anyone who has lived in the United States or even visited it for a few days knows who controls those media. So there is nothing strange in that.

Question: What can you expect from the United States under Reagan,who applauded the Israeli raid on Tunis and the PLO

headquarters and who committed that act against the airliner and later boasted that the order came from him personally.

Answer: Diplomacy knows no despair. Its strength lies in its flexibility in handling situations, so long as it does not abandon principles. I heard George Shultz say the following in his UN speech, delivered on the occasion of the UN 40th anniversary: The UN secretary general should exercise his powers under Article 99, which entitles him to summon the UN Security Council to meet to discuss problems which threaten international peace and security, particularly in the Middle East, on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338. That was on 26 September, and it denotes some movement or the beginning of new movement in the U.S. position. He is urging the Security Council to play a part — something which the United States has rejected in the past.

Question: I witnessed differences of opinion between Jordan and the PLO at the Casablanca summit conference last August. Faruq Qaddumi clashed with Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i over certain interpretations of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement during an important meeting. The situation would have developed into a crisis if King Hassan had not intervened and asked 'Arafat to come to the rescue. Zayd al-Rifa'i told Faruq Qaddumi at one point: If that is your interpretation of the agreement, then we should reconsider the whole matter.

Answer: That only confirms what I have been saying about the need for clear vision on both sides.

Question: How can that be achieved when much is being said in the Arab press about Palestinian fear of a Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement?

Answer: I believe that such fears are unwarranted. I believe that the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement will be in the interest of both states and will not run contrary to the fixed positions on the Palestinian question. What matters is that Jordan and the PLO should preserve the 11 February agreement, because it is essential. It was after that agreement was concluded that President Husni Mubarak called for a Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue with the United States.

Question: Let us talk about the European attitude which, in the final analysis, is evidently aligned with that of the United States or at least inspired by it. Do you think that Europe is capable of playing a positive role in the peace process?

Answer: The European role is positive and constructive. I hail the EC for its past role since the Venice Declaration and for its more recent stance condemning the Israeli aggression against Tunis and the PLO and calling for the fulfillment of the Palestinian people's right to their land. The ink on that latest statement is not dry yet. Europe has a major, not marginal role to play, especially when the Security Council plays a part in tackling the Middle East issue, because Europe's France and Britain are permanent members of the Security Council.

Question: What do you think of Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' UN speech?

Answer: Actually the speech contains signs of positive developments in the peace process on the Israeli side. In his 21 October speech Peres gave the Security Council a role. That in itself is an important development as far as promoting a peaceful settlement is concerned. Shim'on Peres also expressed willingness to negotiate with a Jordanian delegation or a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, even though he had reservations regarding Palestinian begotiators. I say that the speech contained some positive points, but there is a need for more explanation.

Foreign Minister Comments on Cairo Declaration

NC141646 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Nov (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has described the Cairo Declaration as an important starting point which will enable the disputing parties in the Middle East to reach common grounds for an agreement among themselves. In this way, a peaceful and just settlement can be reached.

In an interview with Kuwait's *AL-NAHDAH* magazine published today, Dr 'Abd al-Majid emphasized that Yasir 'Arafat's announcement of the Cairo Declaration came at the right moment because it told the whole world that the PLO condemned and denounced all forms of terrorism. He expressed his belief that the Cairo Declaration will greatly influence and encourage the efforts to give momentum to the Middle East peace process, as long as it is properly utilized and there is good will.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid noted that the Palestinian leadership has proven to the whole world that it is quite ready to join the peace process, now that it has haken off suspicions of support for or instigation of terrorism. He added that the Cairo Declaration is completely separate from the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. However, he said, it will be ultimately included in the agreement and will further its aims. He added: This declaration supports the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and paves the way for it to become practical reality. 'Abd al-Majid said he hoped that all Palestinian factions would endorse the declaration so that it would not lose (credibility).

In a statement published in *AL-NAHDAH* magazine, Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has emphasized that the Cairo Declaration announced by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is a document that condemns terrorism. It also checkmates the forces of terrorism, whose reckless conduct has almost turned the Palestinian issue into a terrorist issue in the eyes of the world. Dr al-Baz added that Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO will together utilize the international reaction and strong response aroused by the Cairo Declaration to serve the Palestinian cause.

Ghali Returns From African Tour, Comments

NC200739 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo this morning at the end of his visit to Cameroon and Guinea-Bissau [as heard].

He said that he will submit a comprehensive report to president Muhammad Husni Mubarak on his talks in Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea. He added that he conveyed messages from President Mubarak to the presidents of the two countries and that they asked him to deliver their replies.

Dr Ghali noted that his talks in both countries dealt with African problems, with special emphasis on the Western Sahara, Chad, and Namibia. They also discussed Africa's economic difficulties, placing particular stress on the question of debts. The Middle East situation was reviewed as well. He pointed out that he explained Egypt's position on developments affecting the Palestinian issue, the agreement between Jordan and the PLO, and the Cairo Declaration. He said that he found full support for Egypt's stand and its efforts to allow the Palestinian people to gain their right to self-determination.

Al-Janzuri Leaves for Visits to Austria, India

NC140720 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, left Cairo this morning for Vienna on a 4-day visit to Austria. He will then fly to New Delhi for a 5-day visit to India. Dr al-Janzuri will hold economic talks in Austria and India on ways of strengthening and developing bilateral economic and technical cooperation.

FRG Parliamentary Delegation Arrives in Cairo

NC172109 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2055 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — Dr Philipp Jenninger, speaker of the FRG Bundestag, arrived in Cairo this evening at the head of a parliamentary delegation for a 5-day official visit to Egypt.

Meets Al-Mahjub

NC181536 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Cairo, 18 Nov (MENA) — People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub has asserted that the Palestinian issue is the core of the Middle East issue. He added that it is not a regional, but rather an international problem, and that international politics should not be left to the USSR or the United States alone.

During his meeting today with the FRG Bundestag delegation, which is led by Bundestag President Philipp Jenninger, Dr al-Mahjub said: Egypt believes that as long as the Palestinian question is the core of the Middle East issue, just peace can only be achieved by a just solution. The Palestinians are a people just as any others in the world and their first right is that of self-determination.

Bundestag President Dr Philipp Jenninger spoke during the meeting. He pointed out that his country understand the right to self-determination which the Palestinians are demanding, adding that all people must live in safety within recognized borders.

The German official commended the Egyptian efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East. He described the Palestinian Cairo declaration as excellent, adding that peace can be achieved through negotiations.

The Bundestag president asserted that his country supports peace initiatives to solve the Middle East issue. He added that world peace cannot be achieved unless it is established first in the Middle East.

Dr Jenninger said that FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl has assigned him to explain to the Egyptian officials that cooperation between Egypt and the FRG is continuous and will be given the priority that satisfies both countries. He added that the FRG is pleased with their economic cooperation which has attained many important achievements.

At the end of the meeting, the Bundestag president invited a delegation of the People's Assembly to visit the FRG.

Malaysian Chief of Staff Arrives in Cairo

NC151954 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1940 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA) — General Mohamed Ghazali Che Mat, Malaysian Army chief of staff, arrived in Cairo this evening with a military delegation on a 4-day visit to Egypt. Gen Ghazali is scheduled to hold talks with Defense Ministry officials.

Confers With Counterpart

NC161027 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) — Lieutenat General Ibarahim al-'Urabi, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, and General Mohamed Ghazali Che Mat, chief of staff of the Malaysian Armed Forces, jointly chaired the first session of talks between Egyptian and Malaysian military delegations this morning.

After the meeting, Lt General-'Urabi stated that the talks had centered on the Middle East situation, as well as an exchange of views on issues of mutual concern. He expressed his hope that bilateral military cooperation will be strengthened.

Gen Mohamed Ghazali Che Mat said: We discussed common issues. He also noted that the talks were intended to strengthen bilateral military cooperation.

Meets Abu Ghazalah

NC180900 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0825 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, met today with General Mohamed Ghazali Che Mat, Malaysian Armed Forces chief of staff. The meeting was attended by Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, Armed Forces chief of staff.

Gen Ghazali is scheduled to leave Cairo tomorrow, following his 5-day official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt, which came at the invitation of Lt Gen Ibrahim al-'Urabi.

Concludes Visit

NC191512 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 Nov (MENA) — General Mohamed Ghazali Che Mat, Malaysian Army chief of staff, and his delegation left Cairo for Amman this afternoon following a 4-day visit. During his stay in Egypt, the Malaysian general held talks on strengthening military cooperation between the two countries.

He was seen off at the airport by Malaysian Ambassador in Cairo Abdoullah Zawawi, and Major General 'Umar Hammad, commander of the central military district.

PLO's Salah Khalaf Discusses Jordan, Syria

NC180855 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0655 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Nov (MENA) — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, has emphasized that the recent visit to Cairo by the Palestinian delegation headed by PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was a step forward in straightening the course taken by the historic relationship between the PLO and Egypt. He added: This relationship is absolutely priceless to both parties.

In an exclusive interview published in today's edition of the *MAYU* weekly paper, Salah Khalaf pointed out that the recently issued Cairo Declaration is totally a Palestinian product. He added: No one asked us to issue such a declaration. Reports that Cairo placed some conditions on that declaration are also untrue. Abu Iyad stressed that the PLO's relationship with Egypt will have a positive influence on the Palestinian issue in various respects, and will give impetus to the peace process.

Asked about statements that he has recently issued about Egypt, Abu Iyad noted: These statements were merely the expression of a point of view and were never meant to be an attack.

Replying to another question, Salah Khalaf pointed out that Israel does not want to discuss the issue of peace with the Palestinians because that would deprive it of the foreign aid it receives and the security claims by which it keeps its society in the alert. He went on to say: Israel wants a fragile peace with the Arab states, through which it can gradually expand. The real test challenging Israel is whether it will call for an international conference, to be attended by all parties concerned, thereby proving that it is serious about accepting a political settlement and peace.

On the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. Abu Iyad emphasized that Jordan's King Husayn is adhering to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and is not seeking to disregard the PLO, because he is completely aware of the importance of joint action. Abu Iyad condemned Syria's stand, adding: Syria, which is in alliance with [Lebanese Forces Executive Committee Chairman Elie] Hubayqah, is the last party that should talk about capitulationism. He went on: Syria is dealing with agents from Israel and the United States with ardent zeal and enthusiasm; therefore, it has no right to talk about or try to outbid the PLO. He continued: The Syrians' actions against the Palestinian people are more criminal that those of any other Arab regime. The Syrian regime continues to deal us both political and military blows. Abu Iyad added: The deal that is currently being concluded by the Syrian regime seeks to destroy the PLO. This, in turn, will give the Syrians a free hand to do what they like in Lebanon.

Salah Khalaf pointed out: It is very strange for the United States and Israel to ask us to recognize Israel when no one has recognized the PLO. He concluded his interview by saying: We have no choice but to continue to mobilize our Palestinian and Arab peoples in the realization that our national rights constitute the basic prerequisite for each and every Arab citizen. The national rights of the Palestinian people are the price of Arab peace.

Labor Unions Issue Joint Communique With Iraq

NC142007 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 14 Nov (MENA) — Egyptian and Iraqi workers have declared their full backing and support for President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's efforts to establish peace in the Middle East, to achieve a peaceful solution to the Iranian-Iraqi conflict, and to stop the bloodshed between the two neighboring countries. The two Arab countries' workers stressed their full support for the Palestinian people's struggle, under the leadership of the PLO and struggler Yasir 'Arafat. The Egyptian and Iraqi workers denounced Iran's decisions to reject all peace initiatives, while condemning the stands positions taken by those Arab countries that are aiding the Iranian regime to carry out its aggression against Iraq.

This came in a joint communique signed this evening at the conclusion of talks that began in Cairo on Tuesday between leaders of the General Federation of Egyptian Labor Unions and those of the General Federation of Iraqi Labor Unions. The communique was signed for the Egyptians by Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, minister of manpower and training and chairman of the Egyptian Labor Federation, and for the Iraqis by Ahmad Muhsin al-Dulaymi, chairman of the Iraqi Labor Unions federation.

The Egyptian-Iraqi workers communique called on the masses of Arab workers, from the gulf to the ocean, to take a firm stand on the restoration of Arab solidarity and to put an end to the present Arab situation, which benefits only the Arabs' enemies. Their statement declared that the present leaders of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU] are not legitimate. The Egyptian and Iraqi labor federations agreed to undertake joint labor initiatives to alter ICATU's course, so that it can return to its vanguard role in leading the Arab working masses toward the sacred goals of the Arab nation's struggle and toward the restoration of its usurped rights, foremost of which are those of the Palestinian people.

In the joint communique, the Iraqi delegation praised the responsible pan-Arab stand taken by Egypt and its working masses in

defense of the Arab causes. The delegation also lauded the honorable role played by Egyptian workers in Iraq, who are shouldering a heavy burden in driving the Iraqi economy under conditions of war. The Egyptian delegation praised the heroic role played by Iraq and its working masses in dealing with the war, while proceeding with their development program simultaneously.

The two delegations agreed to cooperate and coordinate in the international labor union groups, in promoting workers' culture and in labor union training functions. They also agreed to strengthen joint cooperation between Egyptian labor unions and their Iraqi counterparts, particularly by exchanging labor union information and technical expertise, trading delegations and visits, and organizing educational courses and seminars on common issues in which both Egyptian and Iraqi labor union personnel will take part.

The two delegations agreed on a common plan that each will undertake to communicate with labor unions in the Arab countries in accordance with a specified timetable, so as to secure agreement on joint Arab labor union action to change the course taken by ICATU and to restore unity to the Arab labor unions.

Samir Najm, head of the Iraqi interests section in Cairo, hosted a luncheon banquet today in honor of the Egyptian and Iraqi labor union leaders. It was attended by Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad and the federation leaders, and by Ahmad Muhsin al-Dulaymi, the delegation accompanying him, and senior members of the Iraqi interests section.

The final session of talks was held in the evening, and a joint communique was siGned. The Iraqi Labor Union Federation delegation is due to leave Cairo tomorrow, Friday, for home. The delegation arrived in Cairo on Tuesday morning after a visit of several days to Sudan, during which it held talks with Muhammad 'Thman Jama', chairman of the General Federation of Sudanese Labor Unions, and other federation leaders.

New Air Force Chief of Staff Appointed

NC191203 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1125 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 Nov (MENA) — Staff Major General Muhammad 'Ala' al-Din Barakat has been appointed Air Force chief of staff. Maj Gen Barakat was born in Cairo in 1935 and graduated from the Air Force College. He received a master's degree in military science and is a graduate of the Higher War College. Maj Gen Barakat held several leading posts in the Air Force, and was granted scholarships in the USSR and Czechoslovakia. He was awarded the Military Star and the Order of Military Duty.

Muslim Leader Critical of U.S. Relations

PM131454 Cairo AL-SIIA'B in Arabic 5 Nov 85 pp 9,10

[Article by 'Umar al-Talmasani, supreme guide of the Muslim Brotherhood: "American Trickeries"]

[Excerpts] Israel carried out an impudent and audacious raid on Tunis. The raid aroused the world's conscience — that is if this world has any conscience — and the United States felt the impact of this raid, which was carried out with its consent and by agreement with its pampered child [Israel]. Therefore it sought to preoccupy world opinion with another incident equally in violation of all custom, law, and tradition. Four of its fighter planes intercepted an Egyptian civilian plane and forced it to land in Sicily. It would be total ignorance on our part to blame the United States for what it has done because it always rushes to cover up Israel's crimes in every possible way. Perhaps we have not forgotten that the United States threatened to withdraw from UNESCO and not to respect the International Court of Justice if either of them whispered a word condemning Israel's action. In the recent past Reagan threatened to withdraw from the United Nations if Yasir 'Arafat attended its anniversary celebrations. This too was in order to please Israel.

We have said time and again that Egypt must adopt a firm stand in the face of such behavior. Anyone who saw the Egyptian president on television, heard his bitter words, and saw the signs of grief on his face would realize the depth of the wound which Egypt's dignity suffered because of this disgraceful behavior. I am not calling for breaking off relations, withdrawing ambassadors, or joining another side. I am not calling for this because I am aware of the state of affairs between Egypt and the United States. We learn about it from foreign newspapers and not from our local papers, which willingly or unwillingly refuse to discuss it.

The attitudes of Tunisia and Italy in this incident were a thousand times worse than that of the United States. The former refused to allow our plane to land at its airport despite our honorable stand with it in the air raid incident, and the latter allowed the interception after we had behaved in a chivalrous manner toward it in the ship incident. In other words, the United States, not content with this blatantly ungrateful stand, forced Tunisia and Italy to participate with it in this ugly crime. Therefore there is absolutely no justification any longer to sing the praise of U.S. friendship. Egypt might have reasons that prevent it from acting tough with the United States, but there is a difference between acting tough and accepting humilitation and ignominy. Woe to a country that accepts humiliation and does not think of taking action to rid itself of it.

The United States has criminal designs against Egypt. After having isolated it from the Arab and Islamic peoples through the Camp David treaty, it wants to do away with whatever sentiments are left in those peoples toward Egypt. The United States does not like Egypt and its Al-Azhar to remain the guiding light for all the Islamic countries. The United States is striving to achieve this objective so that nothing in this Islamic region will remain that has anything to do with Islam or helps to spread and consolidate Islam. The changes effected in al-Azhar during Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir's regime were another aspect of the U.S. methods. The United States does not wish Egypt to remain the leader of the whole Islamic world. It wants this leadership to be eliminated forever through the humiliating blows it strikes against it from time to time. It is as if it is telling the Islamic world: This is Egypt, your leader; we humiliate it and yet it cannot defend itself. So why do you look to it as a leader; leave it alone.

The United States has no backing in what it is doing except the arrogance of its material power, but it is ignoring historical events, which prove that no nation remains on top forever and no nation remains at the bottom forever. Times change and God makes sure peoples have their day. Had the United States done what it did to a country other than Egypt, it might have found some justification. But it did this to Egypt, which did not expect this from the United States. Egyptian officials daily state that they adhere to the treaty, tolerate its evils, and accept, albeit unwillingly, what Israel does under the aegis of that disturbing calamity called the peace treaty.

We need to change our attitude toward the United States and Israel, an attitude that does not involve protest but something which the United States and Israel will feel. The Egyptian people are prepared to concede anything except their dignity. The people do not wish to clash with their leaders but they ask them to give them the freedom to act against these insults. The people, thank God, are extremely capable of doing so. So let the government not stand between the people and those who trample upon their dignity, and the world will see how Egypt can defend its dignity.

Waite Comments on Hostages, Negotiations

Has 'New' Information

NC191814 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Terry Waite, special envoy of the archbishop of Canterbury, arrived in Beirut this evening. He is accompanied by a French diplomat and Dr Rida Ra'd, a cardiologist of Lebanese origin. Waite stated that he has new information about the U.S. hostages held captive in Lebanon. However, he declined to reveal this information.

Addresses Press Conference

NC191936 Paris AFP in English 1925 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Beirut, Nov 19 (AFP) — Terry Waite, special envoy of the archbishop of Canterbury, today appealed for the release of all hostages in Lebanon.

Mr. Waite, who flew in from Paris with a French "humanitarian" delegation, said he had "very important things" to say to the kidnappers of the four U.S. hostages on whose behalf he began his shuttle mediation.

Of his earlier visits to Beirut on November 13 and 17, he told a press conference:

"I believe that last time a good step forward was taken. I think it is now possible to take another step forward.

"I hope those who have responsibility will see how opportune a time it is now for a major move forward."

Mr. Waite arrived here earlier with Pierre Blouin, a French diplomat and a Lebanese-born French heart specialist Rida Ra'd, sent from Paris to seek news about the health of a French hostage.

Earlier he appealed for the release of one of four French hostages in Lebanon, said in an unauthenticated message from the Islamic Jihad to be severely ill. The ailing captive is thought to be Beirut Embassy protocol chief Marcel Carton, aged 62, reportedly suffering from heart trouble and needing urgent surgery.

Mr. Waite returned to Beirut today after meetings in London with what were termed members of the U.S. and British Governments and in Paris with officials at the French Foreign Ministry.

Mr Waite said that "True Islam does not deprive innocents of their liberty."

"True Islam," he said, "recognises God-given freedom," and he appealed for the release of "all people held captive be they foreign, French, Italian, British, American or Lebanese."

Mr. Waite, who has refused to identify the kidnappers or say whether he had met them, said he wanted to thank them for "Placing their trust" in him.

"They took a risk, and they should know I will honour their trust," he said.

Al-Jumayyil Phones Al-Asad, Reviews Situation

NC191443 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad at noon today. He congratulated him on the 15th anniversary of the corrective movement.

It was an occasion for the two presidents to review the current situation and emphasize the need for intensifying efforts to promote the salvation march.

Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni said that the phone conversation touched on the means to close the Lebanese crisis file and enable Lebanon to make best use of Syrian support in the salvation process.

'Source' Cited on Al-Jumayyil Visit to U.S.

NC200707 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpt] A diplomatic source has revealed some new information on the recent visit to the United States by the Ba'bda Somoza [President Amin al-Jumayyil]. The source said: During his stay, Al-Jumayyil met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and was told: You have deceived us and have not fulfilled your promises. What can we do for you? We suffered several blows in Lebanon because of our support for you and your army. Despite this, you have deceived us. The Ba'bda Somoza replied: I could not deliver on my promises, but now I am ready to do what you want.

The diplomatic source added: Shultz asked the Ba'bda Somoza to try to gain time and block any domestic Lebanese solution or any settlement with Syria in the expectation that new developments will occur in the region. The Ba'bda Somoza received 40 million dollars from the United States, which had been frozen there. This strengthened his position vis-a-vis his opponents in the east, propelled him to the forefront once again, and allowed him to reject the [Damascus] agreement.

Junblatt Comments on Discussion at Meeting

NC190923 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Following the meeting held last night in the house of Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt said: I confronted the conferees with their responsibilities regarding the new, bloated budget proposed by the regime, particularly the clause concerning the Army. I do not believe that we need more weapons and ammunition to destroy the remaining areas of the southern suburb or the mountain. We need to rehabilitate this Army and send it back to the barracks. Junblatt added: We also debated the need to give urgent attention to the problem of the Trans-Mediterranean Airline

company. The salaries of the company's staff and pilots have to be paid while we continue to seek agreement on a solution. There is also the internal secrity forces command council set up by so-called Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf. We reject this new council because it does not include Muslims and nationalists. Grave consequences will ensue if ths situation continues.

Franjiyah Discusses Damascus Agreement

NC200847 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] In his news conference yesterday, former President Sulayman Franjiyah affirmed the need for a national conference attended by experienced and impartial officials. He said that any agreements reached at this national conference would most likely be approved by all Lebanese.

As for media reports about his visit to Damascus, President Franjiyah said: Regrettably, this visit was invented by the mass media, and they are still talking about it. He added: My trips to Damascus require no preparation. When I am honored to visit Damascus, I feel that I am in my own home.

President Franjiyah asked: Why was not the Sunni community represented at the tripartite meetings in Damascus and given a chance to express its opinions? Is it politically possible to disregard this community in Lebanon?

Forces Reject Muslim 'Ultimatum' on Agreement

NC190739 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] While commenting on the statement issued yesterday by the Muslim ministers who met in the home of Prime Minister Rashid Karami, a responsible source in the Lebanese Forces said: If that statement was an ultimatum, then we reject it. We will not allow anyone to lure us into doing anything that is against our convictions.

The source added: The Lebanese Forces will not sign any agreement under pressure. Nor are they willing to conclude any sort of accord that does not take their amendments into consideration. The source went on to say: The Muslim statement stressed a commitment to the latest draft agreement from a sectarian point of view. This came despite the fact that Damascus told the Lebanese Forces delegation during its recent visit that it does not sponsor any sectarian solution for Lebanon. However, if those who signed the statement insist on their position, which calls for the imposition of a sectarian solution, the source said that the Lebanese Forces will view the accord as null and void.

On the other hand, the source emphasized that the Lebanese Forces will not allow the passage of any solution through the exploitation of social and economic pressures. The Forces consider Lebanon's current social and economic situations to be the results of the political positions and inflammatory stands taken by those who issued the statement.

Further Reaction

NC191001 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The Lebanese Forces have responded to the strategy of the Muslim meeting held at the house of Prime Minister Rashid Rarami. The Forces said that in their statement the conferees evaded their responsibility in obstructing the draft tripartite agreement by making unacceptable and unreasonable demands at the political and national levels.

The Forces added that the statement was an attempt to sabotage the agreement and to put the ball in someone else's court. The public has realized that those tampering with the fate of the homeland and the people are still gambling with the higher national interest for the sake of achieving aims and purposes known to all.

Informed political sources were surprised by the stand taken by Prime Minister Karami and Minister al-Huss, as they have repeatedly complained of the political hegemony imposed on the western area, the repression of the Sunnis' rights, and Birri and Junblatt's attacks on them.

Karami Expresses 'Surprise'

NC191119 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Sources close to Prime Minister Karami and Ministers Salim Al-Huss, Birri, and Junblatt have expressed their surprise at the Lebanese Forces' emotional reaction to their call to sign the Damascus agreement. These sources said that everyone knows that the agreement, which the Lebanese Forces has thus far failed to sign, is the result of proposals and ideas that the Lebanese Forces' representatives took to Damascus. The agreement was not formulated by Prime Minister Karami or Minister al-Huss, who read the draft after the three negotiators had agreed on a final formula and the time to sign it had been set.

These sources added: We then began to hear new proposals for amendments every time the two representatives of the Lebanese Forces visited Damascus. This prompts us to believe that they are not serious about the agreement and that they are playing for time with certain purposes in mind.

National Union Front Delegation Meets Birri

NC161453 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri met this afternoon with former Minister Marwan Hamadah, Akram Shuhayiib, and Dr Muhammad Baydun, who are representatives of the Amal Movement and the Progressive Socialist Party on the Tripartite Committee, immediately on their return to Beirut from Damascus. They briefed Minister Birri on the results of their discussions today with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Syria Denies Asking USSR To Recognize Israel

JN200637 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Syria has officially denied Israeli Prime Minister Peres' statement before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Syria and Jordan have asked the USSR to resume diplomatic relations with Israel. Jubran Kuriyah, the Syrian presidential palace spokesman, said: As long as millions of Palestinians and Arabs are displaced due to Israel's policy of continued occupation of Arab territories, nothing justifies the resumption of diplomatic relations between Moscow and Tel Aviv.

TISHRIN on Objectives of Israeli Penetration

JN200802 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0725 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Damascus, 20 Nov (SANA) — The newspaper *TISHRIN* says: The Israeli enemy does not conceal that the only threat to it is Syria and its effective role in the region.

In a comment under the headline "The Enemy Provocations," *TISHRIN* adds: The Israeli military provocations are within the framework of undermining this effective role in more than one arena in Lebanon in an attempt to foil the Syrian-sponsored solution, to encourage the sides that will be harmed by this solution to resist it, and to encourage capitulationists in the Palestinian arena to continue with their capitulatory plan and to yield to Zionist conditions.

TISHRIN adds: The enemy's penetration of our airspace yesterday was aimed at probing our determination and stands. Our planes replied quickly to the enemy. Our valiant planes confronted the Zionist planes, prevented them from achieving their objectives, and forced them to withdraw toward the occupied territory. *TISHRIN* continues: Syria will continue its pan-Arab policy and its efforts to close Arab ranks on militant bases that are hostile to Israel and Zionism. Moreover, Syria will continue to extend every possible aid to fraternal Lebanon in order to end its ordeal and to lay down the basis for national accord. Syria will also confront any liquidatory or capitulatory plan in the Palestinian arena. It will also spare no effort to help the Arab people in Egypt topple the Camp David accord. Concluding, *TISHRIN* says: Zionist threats and provocations will not stop Syria from continuing this policy and this role. Syria will confront, with all means in its power, any aggression on our country and people with the appropriate weapon and language.

AL-BA'TH on 'Provocation'

JN200804 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Press review]

[Text] Writing in its daily "*AL-BA'TH* Opinion" column under the headline "We Will Not Fear Any Enemy Move," *AL-BA'TH* says:

Ever since it has realized that the proposed capitulation plans in the region are moving backward with unexpected speed, Israel has begun to escalate a rabid, aggressive campaign of a political and military nature against Syria. The leaders of the Zionist military establishment have made several statements as part of this propaganda program. These statements have ranged from provocations to threats. While some of these statements have concentrated on rejecting the international conference concerning the achievement of just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and others on adhering to the Camp David process and separate deals, certain officials in the Zionist entity have begun talking about military concentrations in the occupied Golan, the West Bank, and Gaza under the pretext of replying to Arab resistance in the occupied territories.

AL-BA'TH adds: While it is natural for Syria to be the target of this hostile campaign, both on the political and military levels, nobody can isolate Israel's aims from the current events and developments in the region. The Arab-Zionist conflict, which is led by Syria on the basis of firm, principled stands and faith in our just cause and the broad masses of our great Arab homeland, has reached a delicate phase.

The most significant and prominent characteristic of this phase is this state of Arab national awakening which has achieved wide international support. As for the other side — namely, the enemy which is coveting our territories and existence — it has reached a state of internal and external confusion. In addition to its successive economic and political crises, it is isolated internationally and condemned for all its expansionist and aggressive acts and plans. The state of Arab national awakening now experienced by our nation is the natural result of Syria's honorable stands throughout the past years, stands which took the nation from one victory to another. All this has proved the soundness of Syrian policy and forced the capitulation plans to retreat and disappear.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Therefore, we are saying for the second time that it is natural for Syria to be the enemy's main target. The enemy has directed a savage propaganda campaign against Syria and yesterday it carried out a military provocation represented by the F-15 planes' violation of our airspace. This provocation has not come by accident, but is an indication of an aggressive adventure which the enemy sees as a way out of its successive crises, and an attempt to divert the course of events in the region which is not moving in its favor. However, Syria, backed by our nation's struggling masses which stand solidly behind the pioneer of Arabism, will not fear any political or military move by the enemy. We have proved our ability to remain steadfast on every occasion.

Foreign Minister Receives PLO Officials

JN191159 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Damascus —Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this morning received [former] PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee member and official spokesman. Talks revolved around the current situation in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

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Air Force Chief Says Planes Crossed Syria Border

TA191819 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1720 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Interview with Major General 'Amos Lapidot, commander of the Israeli Air Force, by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Lapidot] Today at approximately 1115 a number of our fighters were on a routine patrol in Lebanon. As they approached the northern zone of the patrol, which was in Lebanese territory approximately 10 km from the Syrian border, several Syrian fighters flew in their direction with hostile purposes. They approached to a distance where we had to stop the mission of our patrol and protect our patrol aircraft with additional fighters that were in the area for that purpose.

[Tal] How did they down them?

[Lapidot] They downed them with missiles. The dogfight started with a head-on confrontation. Our intention was to cause the Syrian planes to withdraw rather than create a confrontation, so that we could continue the patrol as planned. Today, for some reason, the Syrians continued to threaten our planes and approached to a closer range; we were forced to enter into a dogfight, during which we downed two planes.

[Tal] How do you assess this move by the Syrians? After all, we are flying over Lebanon every week. Do you believe the Syrians are trying to test our state of alertness, our willingness to enter a confrontation; or maybe they want to test their own capabilities, the lessons they have learned from the war?

[Lapidot] I think that both things you have mentioned are correct. They are very unhappy — this is an understatement — with the fact that we are conducting routine patrol flights in Lebanese territory, and now and then they try to interfere with these flights. Perhaps I should recall that approximately 2 and 1/2 years ago they even tried to ambush our planes and fired air-to-air missiles at them, but thanks to measures we took and our alertness nothing happened. Since then they have occasionally sent planes to interfere with our missions. In recent weeks they have increased their activity, and I would say they are more daring and are creating more dangerous situations. In recent weeks there were several occasions when we had to stop our missions in order to prevent an exacerbation of the situation. Today a situation arose where we could no longer avoid reacting, and we entered into a short dogfight with them.

[Tal] The Syrians today said their planes fell in Syrian territory. Where did the fight take place?

[Lapidot] The fight began when we were actually in Lebanese territory and they in Syrian territory. You must rmember that modern fighters are equipped with missiles with a range of more than 20 km, so the danger to our planes starts when they are in Syrian territory, and we can react and fire our missiles when we are in Lebanese territory. So the confrontation began when we were on both sides of the border, but later on, in order to continue the fight and not to endanger our planes, we had to fight briefly with them across the border.

[Tal] And our planes returned safely?

[Lapidot] All our planes returned safely to their base.

Rabin Warns Syria Against Interfering With Flights

TA191923 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1910 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said this evening that Israel is trying to avoid confrontations with the Syrians, but that if the Syrians try to interfere with our intelligence flights over Lebanon we have no other alternative than hitting their planes. Mr Rabin made these comments during a visit to Los Angeles.

Says No Change in Relations

TA200609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Not only terrorist groups but also regular armies threaten us — this is how Minister Rabin analyzed the incident with the Syrians yesterday. Rabin appeared before the activists of the United Jewish Appeal in Los Angeles.

[Begin Rabin recording in English] I don't expect that it will change basically the present relations between Syria and Israel. That is to say, I consider Syrian policy the most hostile towards Israel. We see on the part of Syria, with the tremendous support of the Soviet Union, an increase of its military strength along the principle that guides Syrian policy, a declared public policy, to achieve strategic parity with Israel. [end recording]

[Announcer Shalom Qital — translates and continues] Israel is trying to avoid a confrontation with the Syrians, Rabin said, but when they interfere with our reconnaissance flights over Lebanon we have no choice but to hit their planes.

'Sources' Connect Syrian Incident, Geneva Summit

TA191617 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1550 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] This afternoon sources in Jerusalem expressed their assessment that Syria had initiated the incident during which two Syrian MIG's were shot down against the backdrop of today's meeting between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that according to this assessment, the Syrians are seeking to promote their case in an international peace conference. The incident is designed to make the Middle East one of the central issues in the talks between the U.S. and Soviet leaders.

Peres: No PLO Negotiations Even With Recognition

TA191716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that even if the PLO recognizes Israel's right to exist, this would not constitute a significant move. Mr Peres emphasized that no change has

occurred in our attitude vis-a-vis the PLO, which is a terrorist organization, and there is no erosion in our position — that we willnot agree to negotiations with the PLO. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the prime minister made these comments during the inauguration of a cable factory in Bet She'an, which is a subsidiary of Tadiran.

Shamir Rejects Reports on U.S.-PLO 'Rapprochement'

TA191608 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has rejected reports alleging that there has been a rapprochement between the United States and the PLO. Shamir doubts reports circulated yesterday that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres had agreed to such a process. Regarding Minister 'Ezer Weizman's trip to Egypt, Shamir says: The Foreign Ministry deals with foreign policy; Weizman is not a contractor for Egyptian affairs.

Our correspondent Uri Ginosar talked to the vice prime minister at the end of a tour of industrial plants in Yavne today.

[Begin recording] [Shamir] I have to check out this matter; so far I have not heard about such a thing. I would be very surprised if the United States decided to change its positions, and I would be even more surprised if the prime minister agreed to this.

[Ginossar] To the best of your knowledge, is such a situation possible?

[Shamir] Theoretically, everything is possible.

[Ginossar] Another issue is Minister Weizman's planned trip to Egypt, which you resent very much. Why do you object to Weizman's trip if such a trip could help efforts to thaw relations with Egypt?

[Shamir] I only learned about this trip from the media. If somebody has a notion or proposal that Minister Weizman must go to Egypt, he should first bring the matter to my attention because these matters are dealt with by the Foreign Ministry. As a rule, I do not think that Minister Weizman is a contractor for Egyptian affairs in the Israeli Government. [end recording]

Rejects Solution From Outside

TA191832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says Israel favors peace initiatives but firmly opposes the imposition of such initiatives. Shamir also said the solution to Middle East problems must come from the Middle East itself. Our correspondent Tzahi Noga reports:

[Begin recording] [Noga] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says we will not allow the two superpowers to solve our problems and we will certainly not allow them to impose any solutions on us. The solution to our area's problems must come from the Middle East itself, and only through direct negotiations:

[Shamir] We oppose solutions enforced from outside. When people talk about political cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union in the Middle East, everyone understands that the intention is for the two superpowers to decide how to solve our problems and how to impose this solution on us. We oppose any imposed solution. The solution must come from within the region and only through direct negotiations between the countries, between Israel and the Arab countries.

[Noga] Yitzhaq Shamir also said he was convinced the United States will not change its stance toward the PLO, neither during the meeting between the leaders nor later. We must avoid doing anything that might weaken the United States' opposition to the organization known as the PLO, according to Yitzhaq Shamir. [end recording]

Minister Weizman Invited for Talks in Egypt

TA180848 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
18 Nov 85 pp 1, 9

[Report by political correspondent Refa'el Mann]

[Text] Minister without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman has been invited by the Egyptian Government to conduct talks with senior officials in Cairo. Last night Weizman confirmed the report on the invitation but would not elaborate. He said only that the issue had been discussed for some time.

Sources in the Prime Minister's Office said the Egyptian charge d'affaires, Muhammad Basyuni, who returned from Cairo a few days ago, had brought a message mentioning the possibility that Weizman might visit Egypt.

It is assessed that the Egyptians would like to use Weizman's visit to improve the atmosphere between the two countries following the tension created after the Israeli Air Force operation in Tunis and the murder at Ra's al-Burqa'.

The sources noted that it is too early to tell if and when the visit will take place. Weizman's associates speculated last night that a serious argument would erupt in the government between the Alignment and the Likud regarding the visit. A previous trip by Weizman, in April this year, led to a serious dispute that later degenerated into a government crisis because Yitzhaq Shamir objected to having Weizman conduct political talks in Cairo.

Shamir Opposes Trip

TA181734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir will oppose 'Ezer Weizman's trip to Egypt for political talks. Sources in the Foreign Ministry told our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer this evening that Israel's foreign policy should be conducted through the Foreign Ministry and it is unheard of that any country should select the person it wants to talk to.

Last night, the Voice of Israel first reported that Minister Weizman had received an invitation from the Egyptian foreign

minister to discuss topical issues with Cairo administration officials.

Weizman Comments on Objection

TA190755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0730 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman said this morning that it is about time that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir not try to always close the doors in the direction of Egypt. Mr Weizman, who was talking to our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, says he intends to set out for Egypt soon and to hold talks with the Egyptian Government leaders, since, as he put it, there can be nothing objectionable for a member of the national unity government to do what he can to contribute to promoting Israel's foreign relations. Israel, he said, uses the services of foreign statesmen to promote its interests. Minister Weizman defined the reaction by the Foreign Ministry, which stated that Minister Shamir will oppose Weizman's trip to Egypt, as strange. Our political correspondent reports that Minister Weizman will leave for Cairo in about 2 weeks.

Egypt Moving To Improve Atmosphere, Relations

TA190840 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
19 Nov 85 p 4

[Excerpts] Egypt is planning to invite several official delegations from Israel in the near future as part of its attempts to improve the bad atmosphere that has recently prevailed between the two countries. The first Israeli delegation is scheduled to arrive in Cairo at the invitation of the Egyptian Ministry of Energy.

The improvement in the atmosphere is also being felt on the Egyptian streets after the media, as though a magic wand had been waved, stopped attacking Israel last week. The electronic media, which are very influential in the street, are being much more modest in their reports about attacks against Israelis in the territories and they have stopped giving anti-Israeli commentaries.

Cairo observers say the change in attitude toward Israel is aimed at proving to the Arab countries, which were convinced that Egypt is about to cancel the Camp David agreement, that it is not prepared to violate its international commitments, particularly during a period of political initiatives for a solution to the conflict in the Middle East.

No Cancellation of Camp David

TA190950 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
19 Nov 85 p 13

[Report from Cairo by Cairo correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Text] A well-known political editor of one of Cairo's largest papers has told *MA'ARIV* that Egypt will neither suspend nor cancel the Camp David agreements, even if the current peace initiatives do not go well. "You must get to know the Egyptian people. This is a people known for its patience and belief that one day something will happen to your nation and it will begin to think seriously about peace."

It emerges that, after the aerial bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis, many Arab countries tried to feel the pulse of the Egyptians in positions of authority. They discovered that Egypt is not prepared to give up its peace treaty with Israel. The Egyptian rulers reiterated to the secret Arab delegations that came to Cairo: "If we sever our relations with Israel, this will mean there is no peace either in the area or in the world. We are now working to accelerate the peace process. How would Israel, the United States, and the European Community react if we really did sever the relations? Who would believe in us and our future peace initiatives?"

The Arab delegations even made the most tempting, nonfinancial proposals to Egypt, such as the leadership of the Arab world and heading the Arab League, as was once the case. The Egyptian leaders' answer was unambiguous: "That would require us to adhere to the joint Arab defense pact and renew the boycott against Israel. We are in no hurry to return to the Arab League, but we do want to do all we can to restore relations with our Arab sisters, and President Husni Mubarak has made great achievements in this field, because the Egyptian nation believes that without Egypt the Arabs feel like orphans."

The wealthy Arab countries have not stopped the financial aid to Egypt. The Saudis and the leaders of the Gulf Emirates say a boycott must not be imposed on the "great and merciful nation" that sacrificed all its human and economic resources to the Arab people in its long wars with Israel. They decided not to tie up the aid to the Egyptian people, who have increased annually by more than a million people, because of the Arab anger at its country's ties with the State of Israel.

The Egyptian nation itself has become accustomed to calm on its border with Israel. The Egyptian young men are not being recruited into the army now for protracted service without home leaves in order to dig into the sands of Sinai along the border with Israel. Many of the young people are now doing their military service in plants close to home, particularly in public works. They are even working as uniformed drivers of public buses. This recruited manpower has brought about many improvements in many services in Egypt's main towns, which are undergoing a population explosion.

However, the Egyptian nation is very sensitive and is influenced to a considerable extent by what is said by its leaders and the media, both written and, particularly, electronic. The " 'Arafat festival" is over in Egypt. 'Arafat's Cairo Declaration has not been explained precisely to the nation. The nation does not understand the Israeli complex on this point, and it regarded the announcement as a declaration of peace. "Why do you not want to solve the problem and why do you not extend a hand to the Palestinians, as you did to Al-Sadat?" I am asked courteously and politely and without any anger by students and ordinary people in shops, the streets, and the hotel. The majority of Egyptians are not aware of the Israeli-Palestinian complications. This is a nation that sees itself as being concerned about every Arab, even in Syria, although it is becoming more and more bowed down under the burden of the economic problems which

are becoming worse and worse in this giant country of 49 million people.

Sharon Blocked From Visiting in Brazil

TA200619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon, who is touring South America at the head of a manufacturers delegation, will not be able to visit Brazil. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that despite requests by the Israeli Embassy in Brazil, the Brazilian Government evaded scheduling meetings for Minister Sharon.

Foreign Ministry sources said that Brazil's attitude is a result of its close relations with the Arab world.

Moda'i Declares No Price Jumps, Subsidies

TA181707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] The finance minister has said there is no intention to subsidize any item due to October's index and that there is no intention to deviate from the budget framework. Minister Moda'i addressed the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs. He added that the economic plan is being implemented according to plan, and that there will be no price jumps.

High Court Rejects Kahane Appeal on Knesset Bills

TA181105 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1041 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] A short time ago the High Court of Justice rejected Meir Kahane's request to require the Knesset speaker to place the two draft bills he submitted on the plenum's agenda. The High Court accepted the claim by the representative of the Attorney General's Office, (Renato Yaraq), that in a previous court decision the judges had not issued an operative order instructing the Knesset speaker to place the draft bills on the agenda. The High Court accepted the claim of the Attorney General's Office that the decision had been only declarative. Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that the High Court did not accept either side's demand that the other side pay court costs.

Knesset Votes Down No-Confidence Motions

TA191855 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The Knesset has voted down no-confidence motions submitted by the Progressive List for Peace and KAKH in the wake of the Sharon affair. The Citizens Rights Movement withdrew its no-confidence motion at the last moment in protest of the fact that the prime minister and his deputies did not appear and the energy and infrastructure minister took their place.

MK's Call for More Settlements in Territories

TA192056 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Knesset Members [MK's] who support the settlements in Judaea and Samaria have embraced the decision of the Council of Settlements which states that nobody has the authority to hand over parts of the country or to forego Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the supporters of settlements in the territories called on all factions in the Knesset to embrace this statement. These MK's said nothing about the attorney general's remark that the statement by the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip against the legality of the government's decisions borders on the criminal. However, these MK's appealed to the government to honor the coalition agreement and declare the establishment of six new settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

ALGERIA

Libya's Al-Humaydi Holds Talks With Bendjedid

LD191517 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] This morning at the Presidential Palace in Algiers Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid received Major Khuwayldi al-Humaydi, who conveyed to him greetings and best wishes of his brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and conveyed to him a message from the brother commander dealing with bolstering strategic relations between the Great 1 September Revolution and the Algerian revolution.

President Bendjedid expressed his appreciation and best wishes to Maj Khuwayldi al-Humaydi for the brother commander of the revolution and the Libyan Arab people, affirming the importance of the historic meeting between the two revolutions and the depth of fraternal bonds and cohesion between the two fraternal peoples of the Jamahiriyah and Algeria.

The meeting lasted 90 minutes and discussed means of bolstering and strengthening relations of cooperation between the two countries in the various fields for the sake of the realization of the objectives and ambitions of the two fraternal countries. Pan-Arab issues and their developments in the Arab arena were also discussed, along with international issues of common interest.

The audience was attended by brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, the official in charge of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secrertariat; and Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi, member of the FLN Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs; and Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison; the brother secretary of the Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Algeria; and the Algerian ambassador to Jamahiriyah.

Brother Maj Khuwayldi al-Humaydi, on his part, affirmed the depth of the historic bonds and common destiny of both countries for the sake of the realization of the common objectives of the fraternal peoples of Algeria and Jamahiriyah.

Departs 19 Nov

LD200023 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] The Libyan Jamahiriyah delegation led by Major al-Khuwayldi al-Humaydi, member of the Revolution Command, and Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary for foreign affairs, left Algeria today for home. At the VIP lounge Maj al-Khuwayldi made a statement in which he expressed satisfaction at the talks he had in Algeria, particularly his audience with President Chadli Bendjedid, and expressed hope for the development of relations between the two countries.

The delegation was seen off by brother Muhammad Sharif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official of the Permament Secretariat of the Central Committee; and Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs.

Briefs

Social Security System — In Algiers the minister of social protection, Mrs Ounissi, has installed the officials in charge of setting up the new social security system. In essence, this system sets up a unique social security arrangement, as well as unique tutellage. It also provides for the creation of two national offices: one in charge of social insurance, labor accidents, and family allowances, and the other exclusively in charge of retirement. These two offices have the legal status of an administrative public body. [Text] */Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 19 Nov 85 LD/*

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Teachers Seminar 19 Nov

NC200849 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The leader of the revolution met yesterday with the participants of the first seminar of Al-Fatih University's Libyan teachers. The seminar is currently under way under the motto: The sanctity of science, which goes hand-in-hand with the movement of the Jamahiriyah society.

Opening the debate, the brother leader emphasized that there are no obstacles to the people's initiative and individual creativity. Such obstacles, if they arise, must be attacked and destroyed. He noted that the Jamahiriyah system, which is based on the masses, is the civilized and appropriate vessel for their creativity. He added: The revolution's objective is to remove any hindrance obstructing man's excellence and freedom, as opposed to that of governmental systems, which exploit all functionaries to serve the interests of these systems. No historical, national, or scientific research can be done in these systems, he noted, because these types of systems hinder the people's initiative and individual creativity, which are not in harmony with the nature of these systems and run counter to the basis on which these systems are established.

The leader emphasized that no one had managed to do historical research in Libya prior to the revolution. Had such research been done, it would have exposed the falsity of the family of [former Libyan King Idris] al-Sanusi. This research would have shown that it was a colonial protege and that it had purposely obliterated the true history of the stages of Libyan struggle, as well as the history of thousands of martyrs who fell defending the homeland. The leader stressed that the reason for some countries' backwardness is that the systems they have do not allow their rulers to order any scientific research that contradicts the nature of these systems. This has compelled these systems to challenge the imperialism of the West, the progress of which was achieved at the expense of the great majority of the people and with the minority accumulating all the wealth. He went on to say: Thousands of workers there are unemployed and thousands of

families are living in extremely bad conditions because that wealth has been stolen by a minority, which utilized it for the development of certain industries. Thousands of the unemployed in the West could have lived on that wealth.

The leader noted that the Jamahiriyah system, which is different from all the systems prevailing in the world, enables the human being to excell as much as he wants to without any fear or restriction. He pointed out that the revolution encourages the revolutionary people's initiative and this breaks the shackles, frees people to choose their own destiny, and enables them to get rid of oppression, exploitation, profiteering, rents, and service charges [ujrah]. The brother leader stressed the need to seize this historic opportunity to do scientific research, unleash creativity, and gain self-reliance in all fields so as to achieve Libyan goals, the goals for which we have carried out this revolution.

The brother leader highlighted the importance of scientific research and the substantial role the universities will play in it, along with their educational responsibility. He also talked of the need to get rid of any hindrance to the achievement of this objective. He noted the shortcomings in colleges and universities in this respect. He said that there were no justifications for such shortcomings in the Jamahiriyah society. He asserted that school curricula must be revolutionized so that scientific research in theoretical and applied fields can proceed in the required direction. He declared that the present school curricula do not move the young to condemn oppression and exploitation. He described the flagrant social disparity during the defunct regime and colonial era as destructive to society. He pointed out that the lack of social justice at the time corrupted the people's morality and brought the U.S. and British bases to squat on the country's soil — and 20,000 Italians, who treated the people underfoot and owned all the land.

The brother leader noted that some social and psychological diseases still exist and must be conquered. There is also some material underdevelopment, which requires that we destroy the residues of the abominable past. The brother leader said that the state of the masses means the freedom of these masses to create and build and do what they deem suitable to meet their needs. These masses are entirely free to break their shackles and resist any foreign or domestic challenge, whether material or psychological.

The brother leader declared that the Libyan people are ready to resist and defeat America if it tries to attack us on our land, or on Sudanese, Tunisian, or Algerian soil. In this connection, he noted the Lebanese people's resistance to the U.S. presence in Lebanon, and added: Had the Lebanese people not confronted the U.S. forces and paid the price, they would have not been able to kick them out of their territory.

The brother leader explained that the university teaching staff have responsibilities to shoulder and that they could be called to account by the masses if these duties are not fulfilled. He stressed that this seminar must approve all matters affecting the teaching staff. The duties of each and every member of the staff — whether related to the curricula, higher studies, and scientific research or to problems of interest to them such as university self-management — should be outlined, he said.

The students, he added, should be left free to set up their conferences and committees and to take charge of the cleaning, production, and militarization [tajyishiha] of the university. He added that the students' domiantion of the university must not affect the professor's prerrogative to teach and grade in absolute liberty. These should not be subject to any influence other than the student's deepest understanding.

The brother leader called on the teaching staff to form a syndicate, trade union, or conference of their own to protect their rights and follow up on the fulfilment of their duties. This, he said, will pave the way for creating consultative working opportunties, for which purpose this seminar is being held.

The brother leader of the revolution called on the conferees to pay great attention to the establishment of scientific research centers affiliated with the university. He added that these centers should submit their preliminary studies to the people's congress for approval and endorsement. He emphasized the need for the Libyan people to depend on themselves and rely on their own production and find an alternative for oil, which sooner or later will dry up. He said: It is your responsibility as specialists in these fields to explain this to the citizens.

The brother leader called on the participants to expand the base of scientific research and to link the scientific research centers to the university laboratories, and then to turn to application in the field. He noted that Libya is a state for the masses, and added: I am ready to embark on any revolutionary act and to go into battle again if I realize that anything is restricting the masses's uprising and freedom, because this is the revolution's philosophy and its ultimate goal.

Al-Qadhdhafi Visits Nuclear Research Center

LD151939 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] The brother commander of the revolution has paid a visit to those who act, unlike those who only talk — those who transform his words into iron and a material force. The brother commander of the revolution yesterday visited the Nuclear Research Center at Tajura'. He also visited the central workshop that produces spare parts for the various machines and equipment.

Iran's Velayati Delivers Message to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD192213 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] The brother leader of the revolution this evening received brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of Iran, and the delegation accompanying him, which is visiting the Jamahiriyah at present, in the presence of the Iranian ambassador. The Iranian foreign minister handed the brother leader a message from the Iranian president.

Ends Visit 19 Nov
LD200012 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of Iran, and the delegation accompanying him left Tripoli this evening. Dr Velayati made a statement before leaving Tripoli international airport, in which he said: My visit to the Jamahiriyah has been successful and positive. He expressed satisfaction at the positive results of the visit, explaining that during the visit views were exchanged on many important problems of common interest, especially those that concern Islam and the Muslims.

Libya-Iraq Summit Said Expected 'Very Soon'
GF161059 Doha QNA in Arabic 0953 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Nov (QNA) — Quoting knowledgable sources, press reports in Rabat have affirmed the possibility of convening an Iraqi-Libyan summit very soon.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* reports that it is better for the door to remain open with regard to the venue of the summit although some Iraqi officials expect Riyadh to be the location. The newspaper reports that the dominating belief is that a senior Iraqi personality will visit Tripoli and a senior Libyan official will visit Baghdad later in order to prepare for the summit between the Iraqi and Libyan leaders, which is expected to be followed by an official announcement on resuming diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Al-Turayki on Relations with Iraq, Maghreb Ties
PM191532 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 19 Nov 85 pp 1,2

[Report on Interview with Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki by Talhah Jibril in Rabat; date not given]

[Excerpts] The Libyan secretary of foreign liaison confirmed that Libya will participate in the ordinary Arab summit to be held in Saudi Arabia. He described Saudi-Libyan relations as good and being conducted within a framework of joint cooperation and contacts in various fields.

Regarding the work of the second committee for clearing the Arab air, which met in Rabat in order to resolve the Libyan-Iraqi dispute, al-Turayki told *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* in Rabat that if there are points of difference between the two countries this does not mean that there are no points of agreement. It is natural for relations between Libya and Iraq to be good and for there to be cooperation. What is unnatural is the opposite.

Referring to the Iraq-Iran war and Libya's attitude toward it, the Libyan official said that this war should be contained and should end in the interest of all parties, adding that the continuation of this war is not in the Arab nation's interest. Libya is ready to make efforts in order to stop the war. The restoration of relations between Iraq and Libya to normal would solve all problems, he said.

Regarding what went on at the meetings of the committee to clear the air between the two countries, al-Turayki said that both sides explained their views at the meeting. The committee listened to both sides in order to identify the points of agreement and disagreement. It would be illogical to expect that the problem will be solved in a matter of hours, adding that the committee has studied the points of difference and decided to hold contacts with the leaderships of both countries in order to reach a solution.

Asked whether the committee has reached specific points for solving the Iraqi-Libya disputes, Al-Turayki said that the committee has found that both sides wish to solve the problem. In order to pave the way to the committee meeting we halted media campaigns and refrained from raising problems that might hamper the committee's efforts.

Regarding Libyan-Palestinian relations, Al-Turayki said that there is no problem between Libya and the PLO; the problem is between the Palestinians themselves. Libya differs only with the PLO leadership's political line, adding that Libya recognizes the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and has constantly confirmed this in joint statements on this subject as well as at the United Nations.

Replying to a question on the Sahara problem and the recent developments, particularly at the United Nations, Al-Turayki said: A referendum must be held in accordance with the OAU and UN resolutions. In our view the holding of a referendum is the way to ensure the solution of the problem. Morocco's and the Polisario's acceptance of a referendum is something positive, and such a referendum should be held as early as possible.

Asked about Libyan-Algerian relations, the Libyan official said: "I cannot say that relations between Libya and Algeria are in a state of crisis. There are more things that link us together then separate us, but we believe that the present coolness in the relations is due to the incorrect interpretation by the Algerian brothers of the union between Libya and Morocco."

He added: Some of the Algerian brothers believe that this union is directed against Algeria. We have affirmed and continue to affirm that this union is not directed against sisterly Algeria: Indeed, it is a unifying Arab action that could contribute to the strengthening of relations between the countries of the Arab Maghreb and achieve unity in the region.

On Inter-Arab Relations
GF190746 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0645 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Nov (WAKH) — Libyan Secretary of Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki has expressed his country's readiness to discuss pending matters with Iraq, as this stems from the keenness to end Arab differences. He pointed out that there are neither substantial differences with Iraq nor border differences. In a statement to UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* published today, Al-Turayki reiterated his country's readiness to ameliorate relations with Tunisia and restore diplomatic relations, but contended that there has been no mediation between the two countries in this direction.

On Palestinian-Libyan relations, Al-Turayki said that there are no problems with the PLO and that his country still recognizes the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people. He also asserted his country's readiness to receive any Palestinian official, including PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat.

The Libyan official spelled out his country's readiness to attend any Arab summit, at any time and any location, designed to discuss the current issues, including the return of Egypt to the Arab rank, provided that this return be conditional on abandoning the Camp David accords and on keeping the Arabs from these agreements.

Al-Turayki again denied the report carried recently by the U.S. paper *THE WASHINGTON POST* which noted that Algeria was involved in the U.S. plot to destabilize Libya. He called Libyan-Algerian relations good, stressing that Algeria is not likely to undertake any hostile act toward Libya. He added that Arab differences are secondary compared with the main contradiction with the Zionist enemy. He called for liquidation of all differences and for finding quick solutions to them in order to divert all efforts in the confrontation of the enemy of the Arab nation.

On the Chad issue, Al-Turayki expressed Libya's readiness to help Chad arrive at a solution to its domestic problem. He said that his country may consider dispatching its forces to Chadian territories if the need arises.

Suk Al Jum'ah District Real Estate Records Burned

LD191524 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] In implementation of the guiding dictums of the Green Book, which state that a house should be owned by its occupier and that the earth is not the property of anyone, the revolutionary forces in the district of Suk Al Jum'ah yesterday marched to the Suk Al Jum'ah District Land Tenure Records Center and burned its records and files.

MOROCCO

Aosario Leader To Press Moroccan Case in Europe

LD162219 Rabat MAP in English 1227 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Brussels, Nov 16 (MAP) — Secretary general of the Aosario (Movement of the Natives of the Sahara Formerly Under Spanish Rule) is currently on a visit to Brussels to get in touch with members of the European Parliament and explain to them the true facts of the Sahara issue.

The Aosario secretary general is to hand to these interlocutors a memorandum recalling Morocco's commitment [to] organize a self-determination referendum in the Western Sahara to enable the populations of this region to freely express themselves on their future as of next January.

The memorandum outlines again the struggle led by the Aosario so that international conventions on refugees be applied to the Sahrawi families being detained as hostages by the Algerian Army since 1976, and underlines Morocco's attachment to peacefully settle the problem despite Algerian manoeuvers and plots against the Kingdom's territorial integrity.

Recalling that the so-called "Polisario" used by Algeria to launch attacks against Morocco was set up in 1974 only and was mainly made up of elements which have nothing to do with the Moroccan Sahara (95 percent of it being Algerian, Malian, Mauritanian, Niger, and Chadian Sahrawis), the Aosario reaffirmed its determination to oppose any Algerian manoeuver and its attachment to the organizing of a referendum in the Sahara. This referendum, the memorandum goes on, will enable the authentic natives of the Sahara to reaffirm their belonging to the Kingdom of Morocco and will guarantee the sequestrated Sahrawi families international protection from the retaliation of the country which has been ill-treating them for ten years.

The memorandum then reaffirmed the urgent necessity to conduct a census and an authentication of the Sahrawis being detained in the Algerian camps in Tindouf, the Aosario being convinced that these Sahrawis' ordeal will only end when the other refugees from Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Chad have returned to their respective countries under international control.

The memorandum finally calls on the EEC foreign ministers, MP's, and all peace-loving people to side with justice and the respect of human rights and contribute to efforts aimed at establishing a comprehensive and fair peace in the northwest African region and be aware that Algeria tries by all means to impede the holding of the referendum as the popular consultation will unveil its plots and re-establish truth as to the real number of authentic Sahrawis, Algeria claiming there are 700,000 Sahrawi refugees while the real number of authentic Sahrawis detained in the Algerian concentration camps is of 6 to 7,000 only.

SUDAN

Aru Views Administrators' Strike, Law on Duties

JN171511 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 127 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Nov (SUNA) — Samuel Aru, deputy prime minister and minister of irrigation and waterpower, has announced that the Council of Ministers' General Secretariat has not yet received any proposals from administrative officers regarding a law that will define their responsibilities. In a statement to the press here today, Aru said the administrative officers trade union recently voiced its demand for a law regarding the officers' responsibilities. He had asked it to submit its proposals to the Council of Ministers' general secretariat for study, but, Aru added, they did not fulfill their promise and staged a strike to protest the absence of a just law in this regard.

Aru called on the administrative officers to resort to dialogue to achieve their demands.

The administrative officers have been staging a comprehensive strike since yesterday. A committee in charge of studying the

salary structure is currently holding negotiations regarding the union's demands. The committee is chaired by 'Abd al-'Aziz Musa, minister of energy, industry, and mining.

People's Party Official on Dialogue, South, Egypt

JN171808 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1718 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Nov (SUNA) — Muhammad Ziyadah Hammur, member of the Democratic People's Party, has announced his party's support for the principle of democratic dialogue with all parties to solve the problem of the south, stressing that the dialogue should avoid any attempt to exercise blackmail or terrorism. In an interview with SUNA here today, he said that Colonel John Garang does not represent Sudan. He called for giving him a specific period of time to enter into dialogue. If he rejects this proposal, the people and army should carry out their duties to protect the country's soil and unity.

He added that the best way to solve the problem lies in the memorandum submitted by the northern parties during the roundtable conference in 1965 — a conference that called for keeping the south one region with autonomous rule as well as keeping the Army, finance, and foreign policy in the hands of the central government.

Regarding the September laws, Hammur called for revising them and canceling those that contradict Islamic law, stressing that these laws are falsely attributed to Islam.

He pointed to the importance of achieving unity with Egypt in order to guarantee the continuation of democracy and comprehensive development in Sudan. He said: Our moves with Egypt are based on unity of destiny, objective, and joint interest. He also said that the world is made up of blocs and that Egypt is a great striking force in the Middle East. It possesses the biggest armed force and enjoys prestige in both the Arab and African arenas.

SPLA Reports Ship-Borne Government Attack 'Halted'

EA151804 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Reports reaching Radio SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] have said that SPLA forces in Fangak District, under the overall command of Major John Kulang, have halted yet another enemy advance by steamers.

According to our correspondent at Fangak, the SPLA forces, commanded by Captain Paul Gatinuor, engaged three steamers carrying enemy troops and forced the steamers back to Malakal.

A reliable source for the SPLA in Malakal has informed Radio SPLA that the steamers were carrying the troops to Bor in an attempt to open up a river road to Bor, an attempt which our correspondent described as futile.

Regime Said To Shell Civilian Village, Break Wells

EA191913 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Reports reaching Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] from Equatoria revealed that Siwar al-Dhahab's forces have resorted to shelling the civilian village at (Amowzing) following their total defeat by the SPLA forces of (?Bee) Battalion in the three battles early this month.

According to our correspondent accompanying (?Bee) Battalion, Siwar al-Dhahab's forces have shelled the civilian settlement for 3 days — on the 8th, 12th, and 16th of November 1985. Our correspondent revealed that a number of civilians were killed as a result of shelling by Siwar al-Dhahab's troops. A lot of domestic animals were also reported to have died in the shelling. Siwar al-Dhahab's troops were also reported to have broken all the bore holes in (Amowzing) area before withdrawing to Kapoeta Town.

Meanwhile, the spokesman for the SPLA High Command has asured the people of Kapoeta that the SPLA has the will, strength, and commitment to protect the people of Kapoeta District, even from those atrocities committed by Siwar al-dhahab's forces.

TUNISIA

Es-Sebsi Interviewed on PLO, Libya, Domestic Issues

GF171605 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 16 Nov 85 p 21

[Interview with Foreign Minister Beji Caid Es-Sebsi by *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* correspondent 'Abd al-Salam Lusayli' in Tunis — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Lusavli'] It is said that after the Israeli raid on Tunisia, the Palestinian leadership has been thinking about moving its headquarters from Tunis. How true is this?

[Beji Caid Es-Sebsi] This is a question that should be asked of the Palestinian leadership, because one of the principles of Tunisian policy is to respect the Palestinian decision and ensure its independence. We in Tunisia are committed to the Palestinian cause. The nature of our commitment to this cause requires us to make sacrifices for it; we did not demand anything like that from the Palestinian leadership. The decision is left to them according to the interests of the Palestinian cause and the requirements of Palestinian work. The Palestinian leadership knows its interests better, as well as the requirements of the work it intends to do in the future. It is not for us to interfere in the Palestinian decision.

[Lusayli'] In your opinion, what is the appropriate solution to bring Tunisian-Libyan relations out of crisis? Are there parties other than the Kuwaiti mediators involved?

[Es-Sebsi] It is not in our nature, we Tunisians, to be hostile against anybody or to begin any aggression. On the contrary, we only want to establish relations of mutual respect with our neighbors if we are unable to establish relations based on close cooperation. This is what we tried with Libya and made progress

in it, but unfortunately we were the victims of aggression. For no reason the Libyan regime began practices harmful to Tunisia, either by freezing trade and industrial procedures or by expelling Tunisian workers under unacceptable circumstances. These actions insulted the Tunisian people, who still remember them and will so for a long time. Moreover, there are practices that affect the security and stability of Tunisia besides sabotage and other actions — a matter which unfortunately obliged us to sever diplomatic relations with Libya. We had hoped very much that it would not reach this point. The matter now is in the hands of the Libyan regime, not the hands of Tunisia. If the Libyan regime halted such practices, the idea of domination and interference in Tunisian internal affairs, the lack of respect for the existing borders between us, and the attempts to disturb our security and so forth, then we would welcome it, but as long as these practices continue we must remain alert to safeguard our security, stability, independence, and the safety of our land and sovereignty.

We welcomed many mediations. They were good deeds, whether by the brothers in Kuwait, who were the first to make such an initiative, or by the brothers in Morocco and Africa. We welcome and appreciate all these attempts. Let all be convinced that Tunisia is not responsible for the state of relations with Libya.

[Lusayli'] It is said that the Riyadh summit will not be held this November.

[Es-Sebsi] We do not have a definite date for it, but we have a rendezvous to meet in an Arab summit in Riyadh. We are making moves to prepare the appropriate atmosphere for this summit and to ensure its success. These actions and efforts are continuing.

[Lusayli'] There are differences between the government and the General Union of Tunisian Workers in Tunisia. Is that effecting the general situation in the country?

[Es-Sebsi] There are no differences between the government and the General Union of Tunisian Workers. We have some social circumstances and some demagoguery. We are nopw trying to overcome and control them, because their continuation harms the stability, security, and reputation of Tunisia. In God's will the idea of struggle and patriotism will overcome all and we will pass this crisis safely. Anyway, we are about to overcome the crisis.

Government's 'Constant Attitude' on TU's Defended

PM151257 Tunis L'ACTION in French 10 Nov 85 p 1

[Naceur Ben Cheikh editorial: "Common Desire To Preserve Participatory Trade Unionism"]

[Text] In telling the members of the Tunisian General Federation of Labor [UGTT] Executive Bureau, whom he received yesterday at his department, that he is prepared to find appropriate solutions to all the questions raised, the labor minister was in fact expressing the government's constant attitude. Did not the prime minister say in his recent speech to the Chamber of Deputies that he would spare no effort to help trade unionists to overcome the crisis the trade union federation is experiencing? This is based on the principle that a UGTT that is strong because it is healthy and is truly representative, autonomous, and responsible can only contribute to Tunisia's progress and invulnerability and will act with all the nation's vital forces to guarantee ever more justice and freedom within society.

The confirmation, in the joint communique issued after this meeting, that the government also wants to see the trade union movement develop in complete independence, in that the UGTT is a national achievement that it is the duty of all to safeguard, reflects a position that Mr Mohamed Mzali has frequently reiterated since the eve of the Gafsa congress and the publication of his article on trade union autonomy 4 years ago.

This shows that the measures taken yesterday by the government with a view to easing tension only come as a surprise to the advocates of dogmas based on the belief in the need for conflict, class struggle, and violence.

Finally it should be noted that at no time in this trade union crisis has the government doubted the patriotism and spirit of responsibility that characterizes the majority of trade unionists.

It should also be noted that the government is merely anxious to see the trade union federation regain the sense of democracy, sound management, and participatory and truly progressive spirit that has always characterized its social activity. This is political activity in the lofty sense, which is a far cry from petty political chicanery, which is damaging to the collective effort of national building.

WESTERN SAHARA

Declaration Denounces Spanish Break With Saharans

LD161201 Algiers APS in English 1008 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] SADR (Liberated Territories), 16 Nov 85 (APS) — While the Saharan people is witnessing with the adoption by the U.N. of the African plan, the consecration of the legitimacy of their national liberation struggle Spain decided to sell the Saharan people to the criminal regime of Hassan II and Ould Daddah [name as received]. This criminal entreprise, the declaration [not further identified] added, resulted in a bloody war against a people who had only as a weapon their determination, and their fate in the justice of their cause. [sentence as received]

"The recent decision of the Spanish Socialist government to break the relation with the Saharan people, its campaign against the Saharan cause, its military provocation against our sovereignty, its military manoeuvres with the Moroccan army of occupation...are the proof of a collusion with Rabat in view of the Saharan people genocide", the declaration carried on.

The criminal task of Madrid which aimed to liquidate the Saharan people and to give the right of succession to the Moroccan expansionism to the spanish colonialism is a failure, the declaration added underlining that the "sinking of the Moroccan aggressive army, the international audience of the SADR and the isolation of the Moroccan regime are demonstrations of this failure".

ETHIOPIA

DPRK Vice President Welcomed on Arrival

EA192231 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Korean Workers Party Politburo and vice president of the DPRK, arrived in Addis Ababa last night for a working visit to revolutionary Ethiopia. On arrival at Bole International Airport, Comrade Yi Chong-ok was welcomed by Comrade Fikre Selassie Wodgeres, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. Present during the ceremony were: Comrade Fiseha Desta, WPE Central Committee member and secretary; WPE full and alternate Politburo members; ministers; WPE Central Committee members; and members of the DPRK Embassy in revolutionary Ethiopia.

An honor guard which was awaiting the arrival of Comrade Yi Chong-ok saluted him and he inspected the honor guard after the national anthems of the two countries were played.

Eritrean Front Reports Success in 16 Nov Battle

EA200054 Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Northeastern Sahel: The heroic EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] forces dealt a severe blow to an enemy force which was advancing to take over strategic fortifications in northeastern Sahel. The dergue forces were mobilized to take control of the right flank fortifications along the Uodgan River.

In the 1 and 1/2 hours of fighting on the day before yesterday, 16 November, our heroes forced the enemy to retreat without accomplishing its mission and with a heavy loss of men and materials.

On the afternoon of the same day, when the enemy was traced moving towards the right flank of Oudgan, the heroic EPLF forces made a very strong defensive move and forced the enemy to retreat. More than 190 dergue soldiers were put out of action during these two clashes. Among them, 90 were killed, 100 others wounded, and 2 were captured. They also captured 31 medium and light weapons and 2 PRC-77 radio communication sets.

In another encounter, on the same day, at Halhal front, our heroic EPLF fighters attacked an enemy (?unit) which was mobilized separately. In this brief clash, our combatants killed 15 enemy soldiers, wounded 10 others, and captured 4. They also captured 12 Kalashnikovs and two RPG's.

WAKH Reports War Dead

GF200755 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Nov (WAKH) — The forces of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] killed 180 Ethiopian troops, wounded 190, and captured 5 soldiers and a large quantity of war implements and weapons in operations they carried out in the regions of (Naqsa), Halhale, and the northern coast during the past 3 days. A statement issued today by the EPLF office in the Gulf region referred to attacks by units of the EPLF forces against Ethiopian forces in these regions and said that they forestalled an attack planned by the Ethiopian forces.

EPLF Statement Reports Regime Losses Since October

JN181604 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Nov (SUNA) — Well over 12,000 Ethiopian soldiers were killed, wounded, or captured, and 27 tanks, 49 personnel carriers, 1 Mirage aircraft, and 1 field artillery battery were destroyed in the large-scale battles that have been raging between the Ethiopian forces and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] since the middle of October.

A statement issued by the front here this morning added that in this fierce battle the Ethiopian Army had used 15 divisions consisting of over 100,000 fighters, supported by Mirages and Soviet Sukhoi aircraft. The statement said that the EPLF forces captured seven serviceable T-55 tanks.

It is noteworthy that this offensive is aimed at taking control of the EPLF strongholds in the Nacfa and Red Sea coast areas where the EPLF has fortified itself since 1978.

Mengistu-Led Delegation Visits DPRK 9-16 Nov

For reportage on the 9-16 November visit to the DPRK of an Ethiopian party and state delegation led by Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army, including his talks with DPRK President Kim Il-song, see the 14 November Asia and Pacific *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

KENYA

Reportage on Ongoing Peace Talks in Nairobi

Military Council Wants Peace

EA192310 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1720 GMT 19 Nov 85

["Commentary by the Public Relations Section of the Military Council"]

[Text] The Uganda Government delegation to the peace talks arrived in Nairobi with high hopes that this time an accord will be signed by the parties concerned. The government delegation was scheduled to meet President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya. It is also expected that President Moi will meet the delegation of the National Resistance Movement [NRM].

A plenary session will crown the behind-the-scenes efforts to put concluding tones into what will become final peace talks between

the Military Council and the NRM. Observers who have been following the peace talks closely in the corridors of the conference hall and elsehwere say that the committee has been working very hard round the clock to complete its work. After a series of consultations, only a few technical points remain outstanding. These will be ironed out prior to the convening of the final plenary session. Meanwhile, the anxiety among the Kenyan and Ugandan public seems to be subsiding as the talks have gradually come to a successful end.

The spokesman of the Military Council wishes to assure all people in Uganda and the world at large that the Uganda Government is committed to bringing about total peace in Uganda. All along, the Military Council has been concerned about the plight of everyone in the country in all spheres of life. That is why the Military Council opted for a negotiated settlement with all the fighting groups to agree to a cease-fire and invited political parties to participate in the formation of a broad-based interim government. It is also the declared policy of the Military Council to resolve Uganda's problems at a national conference. A program to return the country to civilian rule will then be worked out to ensure permanent peace in Uganda.

NRM Statement on Talks Cited

EA191835 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English 19 Nov 85 p 1

[Excerpt] The National Resistance Movement [NRM] has expressed serious doubts over any compromise with the Ugandan Government in the ongoing Uganda peace talks. This was contained in a press statement issued yesterday by the external co-ordinator of the NRM, Dr S. Kisekka, on behalf of the chairman of the High Command of the NRA [National Resistance Army] and interim chairman of NRM, Mr Yoweri Museveni.

According to the press statement, an extraordinary meeting was held in Uganda last Friday, under Museveni, in which these doubts were expressed by members of the High Command, senior officers of the NRA, and members of the National Resistance Council (NRC) who noted that the people of Uganda are hostile and opposed to the peace talks now going on in Nairobi. When Kisekka was contacted by the *KENYA TIMES* to clarify who the people opposed to the peace talks were, Kisekka said: These are the people who have suffered, been raped and maimed by the UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] soldiers both under Obote and Okello.

The statement also cast an element of doubt, worry, and fear over the mixing of NRA and UNLA soldiers whom the statement referred to as undisciplined. The extraordinary meeting, according to Kisekka, was held in Uganda and discussed a draft peace agreement which has been drawn up by the two sides since November 7 when the committee session of the fourth round of talks started. The extraordinary meeting endorsed the draft peace agreement but warned that it would not abandon its commitment and dedication to always defend the rights, interests, and well-being of the people of Uganda. The statement further said NRA might use the force of arms.

The commander in chief of the Ugandan Army's Western Brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel James Tibamuleke, was killed late on Sunday in a fight with guerrillas, reliable sources said in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, adds AFP.

[Nairobi *DAILY NATION* in English on 19 November, page 1, attributed to agencies and headed "We accept peace terms, says NRA", reports: "Ugandan guerrillas said yesterday they would accept a peace proposal drafted during talks with the military government, provided that unresolved issues are settled to their satisfaction."]

SOMALIA

Crocker Speech on Ethiopian Withdrawal Noted

EA192015 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 19 Nov 85

['Abd al-Rahman Fidow Abdi commentary]

[Excerpts] In a recent speech, the U.S. assistant secretary for African affairs, Mr Chester Crocker, speaking to the U.S. Foreign Affairs Committee on 13 November on U.S. policy in the Horn of Africa, called on the Abyssinian regime to withdraw its troops from these two towns in the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR].

Crocker's speech coincided with the meeting of the leaders of the two superpowers, namely the United States and the Soviet Union, in Geneva. In his speech he also urged the Soviet Government to get involved in bringing about peace and stability in this region, which has come to be an area of conflict. Confrontation and constant wars which rage in the Horn are a result of the colonialist and expansionist policies of the Abyssinian regime. These policies are nothing new but have existed for over a century.

Emperor Haile Selassie and Mengistu Haile Mariam differ only in name. For all purposes they have followed similar paths and policies. The regime ruling Addis Ababa today has further strengthened the expansionist strategy by casting greedy eyes on the independent state of Somali, and in 1982 Abyssinian troops occupied the two towns of Balamballe and Galdogob. They are still occupying them today.

Other troubles in this region which have hardened the situation are the oppression by that regime of various African nationalities such as Western Somalis, Eritreans, and Abos who are constantly battling to achieve their rights to freedom.

It is, however, expected that the historic meeting between the leaders of the worlds two most powerful nations, the United States and the Soviet Union, who carry international responsibility for world peace and stability, will touch on the conflict in the Horn of Africa. World attention is focused on the results.

The SDR stand on the situation in the Horn of Africa has been expounded several times. It sees the only possible way to lasting peace as the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Abyssinian troops from the towns of Balamballe and Galdogob and the recognition of the rights of the colonized people to self-

determination and freedom. However, it is hoped that the outcome of the Geneva meeting on arms reduction, world peace, and stability in different regions of the world will not dash hopes for the oppressed but will bring about lasting solutions to the various conflicts and troubles raging worldwide.

UGANDA

Fire Exchange Results in Brigade Commander's Death

EA192241 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The Military Council has announced the death of the brigade commander, Western, Lieutenant Colonel James Tibamuiee, who was killed in an exchange of fire when the National Resistance Army [NRA] attacked Masaka Barracks yesterday.

In a press release issued in Kampala this evening, a spokesman of the Military Council expressed surprise that fighting had resumed on the instruction of the leaders of the NRA. The spokesman regretted the NRA's act of provocation specially when the peace talks in Nairobi are about to be concluded. He said government is not interested in military supremacy but a peaceful end of hostilities.

NRA Reportedly Numbers 10,500; Training Continues

EA191846 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
19 Nov pp 1,5

[By "Staffman Senda wa Kweyera who has just returned from NRA-held areas of Uganda": "How NRA Operates in Its Territory]

[Excerpts] The strength of the National Resistance Army (NRA) of Mr Yoweri Museveni has reached some 10,500 men to date, according to available information. And every three months, nine of the military training camps are churning out male and female combatants and reoriented troops in the hundreds.

According to the NRA's director of intelligence and security operations, Commander Jim Muhezi: First we used to be regarded as guerrillas, but Uganda politics continued to plunge into a quagmire, people started realising that we were right and they started supporting us — that is the backbone of our military success.

During a visit to one of the camps, we were told by an intelligence officer: We have no business telling people where we train our soldiers, but for your information alone, I can say that some Arab countries and some Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking nations are of use. That's all.

At another camp, we found about 10 UNLA prisoners in tents converted into hospitals. They were being treated for wounds inflicted by NRA soldiers. They were captured during the battle for Masindi. The NRA also seized tanks, lorries, guns, and tankers.

More on NRA Operations

EA181420 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
18 Nov 85 p1

["How NRA Operates in Its Territory," attributed to staffman Senda wa Kwayerea," who has just returned from NRA-held areas of Uganda"]

[Text] The interim administrative machine recently set up by the National Resistance Army is already at work in southwestern Uganda, controlled by the guerrilla organisation. The administrative team was announced in Nairobi on November 4 by the interim chairman of the organisation, Mr Yoweri Museveni, and is headed by Haji Musa Kigongo as chief administrator. It has reported banking, health, transport, education, justice, and security services, and is seeing to it that agriculture is in gear.

According to the manager of the Uganda Commercial Bank, Mr Bintubizibu Mpagi, who is in charge of the bank operations in western Uganda, the NRA has given us quite a boost in funds and now we are resuming operations everywhere in the region. We are contemplating opening branches where peace has settled and reopen those that have closed.

Talking to the *NATION* at Kabales Highland Hotel, where he had stopped for refreshments, Mr Mpagi said: The NRA has given us up to 120 million shillings and now we are opening normally. They have pledged to continue giving banks the funds they took earlier so we can loan them to local businessmen. He added that more funds would continue to be made available by the NRA on a monthly basis as revenue has started coming in from various sectors in the liberated areas.

The chairman of the National Resistance Council, Haji Kigongo, who is the chief administrator, confirmed the statement in an interview with the *NATION*. He said: Contrary to what our enemies would like the world to believe, we did not rob Ugandan banks; we just took money and kept it safely on behalf of the Ugandan masses and now we are giving it back. We want the funds to be injected into various sectors to promote the development of the economy. The NRA was reported to have robbed the Kabale branch of the Central Bank of Uganda on September 6, taking with them 400 million shillings. Following the report, the NRA released a statement in Nairobi in which it said: We don't rob banks. We confiscate money to feed our people.

In various towns, one can easily notice banks in operation, including the Post Office, Cooperative and Farmers Banks. Mr Mpagi said that, for the last three months, the banks had started doing good business. Under normal circumstances we open our banks at 8.30 a.m. but since customers are still few, we open at 9.00 a.m. I am sure, however, that by the end of November, we shall start opening at 8 a.m., Mr Mpagi said.

The more people became peaceful the more they went to banks to deposit or get loans and the NRA was responsible for injecting confidence in the public, Mr Mpagi observed.

Explaining the network of the new administration, the chief administrator said the district commissioners in the Obot regime had been left to continue with their jobs. But below them, we have

appointed special assistants who are supposed to supervise the operations, activities, and decisions of the commissioners, Haji Kigongo said. He added: It is important that any decision must be passed after a joint consultation between two to avoid conflicts of interests that can delay delivery of services to the public.

He explained that most civilians in NRA-held areas offered free food to soldiers every day as there was plenty of it everywhere. We are happy with the positive collaboration we are getting from civilians. They have formed people's resistance committees at the local and community levels to deal with minor issues like crime and general administration, Haji Kigongo explained.

The resistance committees, he said, report to the nearest NRA base all bigger problems, like suspects of armed banditry, and the NRA plainclothes militants lay traps for such people. When arrested they are imprisoned at military barracks. The district level also has district resistance committees to plan and deal with major issues affecting the general welfare of the people. Currently they are placing emphasis on agriculture, mines, banking, anti-smuggling movement, and distribution of fuel to various parts of the NRA-held areas, and so on.

In hospitals, drugs of all types have started being dispensed by doctors under the supervision of NRA personnel. We have placed our special NRA personnel in hospitals and pharmacies to ensure real drugs, not fakes, are given to real patients, not bogus ones, who in turn would sell them to private practitioners as was the case in the Obote regime, said Haji Kigongo. Drugs have come from various charitable organisations, including UNICEF and the Red Cross. Others are bought directly by the NRA and airlifted to Uganda, mainly through Kasese.

The administration of justice has clearly been hampered since the Obote regime, and the NRA is trying to rebuild it at the district and local levels. Most secondary, primary and nursery schools are going on without major problems.

And the NRA has fully succeeded in establishing security and a visitor is pleasantly surprised that no gun sound is to be heard at all. In towns armed NRA personnel rarely move in large numbers. One notices two or three in uniform but the rest are plainclothesmen with pistols securely hidden in jackets or trousers.

Says Commander Jim Muhezi, director of the intelligence and security wings of the NRA: We don't want to cause fear or despondencyamong the civilians by moving with arms in public too frequently. They helped us very much during our struggle and the best we can do to reciprocate is to safeguard them, their property and businesses.

A casual tour of any of the NRA-held are during the day shows people busy in their well-stocked shops. [sentence as published] The goods are made both in Kenya and Uganda. Products of East African industries, Nairobi litter the shops and kiosks up to the village. [sentence as published] On the markets, one notices huge stocks of bananas, Irish and sweet potatoes, onions, oranges, pilipili, sugarcane, secondhand clothes, shoes, cows, [as published] chicken, and textile materials, local or imported.

At civilian-manned roadblocks to be found on all roads in Western Uganda, lorries, personal cars and bicycles are stopped and checked to ensure no smuggling takes place. Unfinished urban buildings in most towns, grounded and remaining uncompleted during the war, are going up again with much enthusiasm. The people seem confident of security.

Western Uganda is hilly and green with healthy crops, including coffee, the chief export of Uganda. Says a Kabale businessman: We have no problem here in western Uganda. We now sleep at night since all the former soldiers of Amin and Obote who went into the forest and have been robbing us at night have been wiped out of the forests by the NRA. They had very many big and sophisticated arms, I tell you.

However, fuel is a rare commodity and pretty expensive in the region following the closure of routes from Kampala. One liter goes for Uganda 80,000 shillings. Therefore most people, including the NRA, have to ration it. On the other hand, when the going is too tough, motorbikes are used by the NRA personnel on supervisory duties to save fuel, which comes to western Uganda from neighbouring countries through various strategic points very confidential to the NRA, as an administrator put it.

People travel long distances in [as published] bicycles and pick-ups full of drums and jerricans to look for fuel. The two modes of transport are doing a roaring business. Telephone services are limited to the western region. External calls are impossible because such lines have been severed by the Kampala authorities. Beers are bought from neighboring Rwanda, mainly the Castel and Primus brands which, in turn, are brought [as published] from Zaire.

Prime Minister Receives Soviet Ambassador

EA200042 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to Uganda, Mr Sergey Bukin, has expressed the Soviet Union's intention to continue and even expand the friendly relations that exist with Uganda and assist the development of economic, technical, and cultural cooperation between the two countries. Mr Bukin was today paying a courtesy call on the prime minister, Mr Abraham Waligo, in his office in Kampala.

The prime minister and the envoy discussed the ongoing joint Soviet-Uganda projects and programs in accordance with the protocol signed recently between Uganda and Soviet Union. They also exchanged views on the problem facing Lira spinning mills and (Busetima) agricultural mechanization college. Both Mr Waligo and the Soviet ambassador expressed their faith that Uganda will soon overcome her internal problems and create conditions to enhance economic activities. The Soviet ambassador and Mr Waligo also exchange views on [words indistinct] and economic outlook.

Public Appreciates Security Efforts for Peace
EA181540 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The peace process which the Military Council government has initiated to end bloodshed in the country and provide lasting peace for all has been welcomed by the silent majority of Uganda.

Evidence of this is contained in numerous memoranda received by the government from various organizations and associations appreciating efforts of the Military Council to create an atmosphere in which all people in Uganda can freely enjoy their fundamental human rights. Residents of (Kandola), in particular, must have noticed the marked improvement in security following various operations by the Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA) to rid (?city) of unlawful gunmen.

It must also be appreciated that on various occasions the members of the Military Council have gone out of their way to take drastic actions against undisciplined members of the military personnel. All these efforts are intended to instill discipline in the officers and men of the Armed Forces.

Reports reaching the government indicate that UNLA personnel deployed in various parts of the country are cooperating with the civilian population very well. It is unfortunate, however, that there are occcasions when some men in uniform may have misbehaved. It is totally regrettable to associate wholesale all the UNLA soldiers with the rape, looting, and murder which have now become a slogan in the local press and the church. It is further disturbing when high-ranking members of our society, including some religious leaders, continue to attack our security forces constantly and regard them only as men who go out to rape, murder, and destroy properties. All Ugandans must realize that without security personnel the freedom of speech, press, worship, and association would be a dream.

CAMEROON

French Cooperation Minister Arrives 19 Nov

AB191934 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Christian Nucci, the French cooperation minister, arrived in Yaounde this morning. Christian Nucci will head the French delegation at the solemn opening of the French-Cameroon joint commission tomorrow, 20 November. He will also hold talks with the Cameroonian authorities on cooperation between our two countries and visit some projects that constitute the fruit of this cooperation.

CHAD

Rebels Cease Hostilities; Refugees Return in South

AB181658 Paris AFP in English 1521 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Arh (Southern Chad) Nov 18 (AFP) — (?A large number of Chadian refugees,) who fled their homes in southern Chad for the Central African Republic (CAR) last year have returned because of improving security, local authorities have said here.

They attribute the improvement to the fact that thousands of the so-called "Codo-Rouge" guerrillas opposed to the government of President Hissein Habre have ceased their hostilities.

Baal Zar, the prefect of the southern region of Moyen Chari, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that more than 1,000 Codo guerrillas had recently gone over to the government side. This follows the signing of a peace agreement on September 4 between a Chadian Government delegation led by Interior Minister Brahim Mahamat Itno and Codo guerrillas led by a Sergeant Tokinon, formerly of the regular army.

Some of these guerrillas are now established in a barracks here. They have been equipped by the authorities and are often seen wandering around Sarh, springing to attention when a regular army officer passes.

The prefect said: "It is not total peace in the region, but we're not shooting at each other either."

He said that only a few pockets of the 5,000-strong "Codo-Rouge" fighters (?still persist in the woods but) no longer (?constitute "any real threat" to the authorities.)

Mr Baal Zar added that the authorities were contacting other rebel factions in the area to negotiate their return to legality.

Some sources have said that many guerrillas plan to turn themselves over to the authorities soon at Moissala, about 125 kms (80 miles) southwest of here on the Chad/Central African Republic border. But this could not be confirmed officially. The result is, as one young worker of Sarh put it: "Today you can turn up your transistor radio to listen to the news without worrying about having it taken from you by an armed man." Another, recalling clashes between the guerrillas and government forces in the area, said: "We were caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. Now we can go to work safely."

Sources close to the authorities here said more than 15,000 refugees had been officially tallied as having returned to their homes in the area, and that many more were also believed to have come back.

This has not been without its problems. Mr Baal Zar noted that the refugees had lost much of what they owned, including their homes and livestock.

Earlier this month, officials of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Bangui reported that more than 10,000 of the 55,000 refugees who began streaming into the CAR in July 1984 from southern Chad had already returned home.

CONGO

March Supports Government on Demonstrations

AB191956 Paris AFP in French 1339 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Brazzaville, 19 November (AFP) — A march of support for the Congolese regime and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso took place in Brazzaville on Tuesday morning. The purpose of this march, which was organized by the Brazzaville Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, PCT — the only party, was to reaffirm the support of the people of the capital for the Congolese Government's policy following the violent demonstrations staged on 11 November by high school students protesting against the introduction of a competition for the obtention of scholarships. According to witnesses, the Army fired blank cartridges in the air while the students ransacked cars and shops. According to various sources, many people were wounded during these incidents.

On Tuesday, thousands of demonstrators — Congolese as well as people of other nationalities — marched to the Palais des Congres in Brazzaville, where the third session of the PCT Central Committee has been taking place for the past 5 days, shouting slogans hostile to last week's demonstrators and carrying many placards bearing the words: "No room for reaction," "Down with the counterrevolution," "Socialism will triumph," "Support for Sassou-Nguesso," and "Down with imperialism."

The head of state, who addressed the crowd after the march, issued a severe warning to all those who might try henceforth to disturb the climate of peace and democracy "which the present Congolese political leadership created since 5 February 1979." "We will never allow this climate to be disturbed," he stressed.

"Some students went astray ... and were joined by some Congolese and foreign bandits," he added, thus referring, according to observers, to the many Zairian nationals who took part in the looting of shops and other acts of vandalism during the violent student demonstrations.

The Brazzaville schools, which had been closed since 11 November, were opened on Monday.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Communique Issued on Visit of Egypt's Ghali

NC171448 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Santa Isabel, 17 Nov (MENA) — Egypt and Equatorial Guinea have stressed that the achievement of a just peace in the Middle East is impossible without the full recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people led by the PLO and without Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory. This came in a joint communique issued at the end of the visit which Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, paid to Equatorial Guinea.

The two countries lauded Yasir 'Arafat's Cairo Declaration and expressed their hope that all parties concerned will respond favorably to this important development. In addition, Equatorial Guinea praised the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, signed on 11 February 1985, as an important step forward on the road to a peaceful and comprehensive settlement.

According to the joint communique, the two states agreed to coordinate their positions in support of the OAU, the Namibian people, Chad's legitimate government under Hissein Habre, and a settlement in the Western Sahara. Both sides also expressed their satisfaction with the close bonds of cooperation and friendship linking the two countries.

Dr Butrus Ghali delivered a written message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to Obiang Nguema, president of Equatorial Guinea, on Friday.

ZAIRE

Military Cooperation Accord Signed With France

AB191628 Kinshasa ELIMA in French 4 Oct 85 p 8

[Text] Zaire yesterday signed a military cooperation agreement with France. The French party was represented by General Lucien Beal, who is leading a military delegation of his country to Kinshasa, while General Likulia Bolongo, secretary of state for defense, represented the Zairian side.

According to a communique released to the press, this agreement will enable Zaire to organize inter-African training courses within the Zairian Armored Group Training School. These courses, it was indicated, are aimed at training with the assistance of French military cooperation, officers and junior officers holding or qualified to hold armored personnel positions. Already, 14 African countries have agreed to send trainees to Zaire to undergo training as platoon leaders, machine operators, and armored vehicle mechanics.

Before returning to Paris the French delegation will visit some military centers in the country.

Rwandan Minister Arrives Carrying Message

AB172039 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1710 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 17 Nov (AZAP) — Edouard Karemera, member of the Central Committee of the National Revolutionary Development Movement and Rwanda's minister at the presidency in charge of institutional relations, arrived in Kinshasa on Sunday from Kigali, bearing a written message from President Juvenal Habyarimana to the founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko.

Though the special envoy of the Rwandan head of state did not reveal the contents of this message, it is believed to touch on strengthening of cooperation relations existing between the two countries.

BURKINA FASO

Defense Minister Receives Canadian Ambassador

AB191723 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpts] After participating in the inauguration of several mini-development projects in Bam and Kouritenga, the Canadian ambassador to our country, John Bell, was received in audience this morning by the minister of national defense, Major Boukary Jean-Baptiste Lingani. At the end of the audience, His Excellency John Bell told the press about his meeting.

[Begin recording] [Bell] I have just been received by the minister of defense and after a very pleasant conversation, we noted that relations between Canada and Burkina Faso are good. I briefed the minister on my activities in Burkina Faso these past days, including the inauguration of various projects which fall under the implementation of our mini-development projects. I must say that the minister congratulated me, as these projects fall within the overall development policy of Burkina Faso. We also talked about yesterday's signing of a protocol of understanding on a project of the protection of vegetation in the Province of Passore.

[Unidentified correspondent] Your Excellency, some time ago, Canada was forced to recall its ambassador due to financial difficulties.

[Bell] We never recalled our ambassador. I have been Canada's ambassador to Burkina Faso since last November, and I am still the ambassador. The ambassador was not recalled. We maintain diplomatic relations, and the minister of defense and I stressed that these relations are excellent and they have never been better. What we did for budgetary reasons was close our embassy office [bureau d'ambassade] which depended on the Canadian Embassy. In fact, what have we done since? We not only maintained the level of our assistance to Burkina Faso, but we even increased it slightly. We opened a Canada-Burkina center for cooperation, and I must add that visits by our first and second secretaries are more frequent. So, diplomatic, economic, and development ties are stronger today than they have ever been. [end recording]

It is to be noted that Mr John Bell will return this evening to Abidjan where the Canadian Embassy is based.

IVORY COAST

Minister of State Meets Italian Finance Minister

AB191642 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Minister of State Seri-Gnoleba held private discussions this morning with Mr Romita, the Italian minister of budget and economic planning. For about 45 minutes, the two men discussed bilateral issues in order to arrive at the right type of cooperation which takes into consideration the interests of the two sides.

Minister Seri-Gnoleba, who is particularly concerned with the rescheduling of the Ivory Coast's external debts, sincerely thanked the Italian Government for its exemplary understanding during this period of economic difficulty.

[Begin Seri-Gnoleba recording] I must thank you — I have been appointed to arrange the reestablishment of the country's balance following the crisis we have gone through — for the manner in which your government has handled the discussions we had concerning the rescheduling of Ivory Coast's debts.

I would also like to say that delegates sent to Rome to sign the agreements have appreciated the warm welcome accorded them and the friendship that resulted from the discussions. But as you know, this effort, which is not static, must continue, and I hope that during our discussions this morning we are able to tackle how Ivory Coast wants to continue its efforts to restore these internal and external balances and also how we want to direct our country's economy so that it may be able to, on its own, generate the necessary resources for the needed recovery. What I would especially like to emphasize is our political will to continue to maintain with your country, within the framework of mutual respect for each other's independence and choices, economic and political agreements and relations — as we have expressed the wish during the previous congress — at all levels which can only strengthen international solidarity and cooperation. [end recording]

For his part, the Italian minister congratulated the Ivorian head of state for his foresight which has enabled Ivory Coast to withstand the crisis.

[Begin Romita recording] The impression you get when you arrive in Ivory Coast is one of an island of stability in Africa. You also feel that it is a developed country which gives you an impression of certainty — if I may say so — on political and economic levels. We are aware of the fact that you have been through a difficult period for these past 2 years, and we believe that you are now overcoming this crisis. The Italian Government was happy to have been among your friends who helped you in the process of settling your debts — a fact to which you kindly referred — which we did because we believe in the future of your country. We appreciate the efforts made by your people and your president, and we certainly hope that the commercial, political, and economic relations between our two countries will be strengthened and become more dynamic. [end recording]

Mr Romita will also meet Gilles Laubhouet, the minister of rural development today.

LIBERIA

President Doe Assures Reagan No Revenge To Be Sought

AB192038 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Head of state and president-elect, CIC [commander in chief] Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe has assured U.S. President Ronald Reagan that despite the unhappy and painful incident of Novem-

ber 12, his government seeks no revenge and that it will continue to pursue a policy of reconciliation and reconstruction.

A Foreign Ministry release issued in Monrovia today said head of state Doe recounted the sacrifices his government has made in trying to put the Liberian ship of state on the course of civilian constitutional authority. Following the October 15 general elections, the release said, Dr Doe appealed to all Liberians for reconciliation and reconstruction with the hope that as Liberians all of us would join forces as members of the only political party essential to economic recovery and in fighting all the challenges and decisions requisite to our national agenda.

According to the release, Dr Doe expressed surprise that at such a time when unity is indispensable to our progress, certain Liberians would, with the help of foreigners, invade our country with all the negative consequences it endangers both at home and abroad. The release said the head of state had however renewed his solemn pledge of reconciliation and reconstruction despite the November 12 incident and is again inviting all Liberians to join forces with him as we commence our second republic.

Dr Doe's message follows the one sent by President Reagan in which the American leader regretted the attempt to forcibly unseat Dr Doe's government, which he said threatened the return of Liberia to civilian rule, an objective CIC Doe has pursued since he assumed the highest office.

U.S. Reports of Summary Executions Denied

AB201246 Paris AFP in French 1135 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Abidjan, 20 Nov (AFP) — The Liberian Government has denied reports from the United States alleging that several people were summarily executed in Liberia following last week's coup attempt. This was contained in an official declaration.

According to the declaration which was broadcast on Liberian radio and monitored today in Abidjan, head of state Doe also assured U.S. President Reagan that all the persons arrested after the coup attempt would be tried according to the law.

On Monday, the U.S. Government expressed its "deep concern" over the "shedding of blood" following the abortive coup. The U.S. State Department spokesman took note of the "widespread but unconfirmed reports" that soldiers who took part in the coup attempt were summarily executed while politicians of the opposition were arrested.

Security Personnel Ordered To Continue Duties

AB191758 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The head of state and commander in chief [CIC] of the Armed Forces of Liberia, CIC Dr Samuel K. Doe, has directed that all security personnel and other essential employees in concession areas in the country who have night assignments are to continue regular duties. A release issued from the Executive Mansion in Monrovia today said the head of state gave the directive in order to ensure the uninterrupted operation of businesses, particularly in the concession areas. The release said these concessions are to ensure, however, that the employees concerned carry proper identifications, and that they adhere strictly to all security procedures and regulations.

University Students Advised To Remain Calm

AB191816 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The president of the University of Liberia, [UL], Dr Joseph Morris has called on students and faculties of the university to remain calm and law-abiding while efforts are being made to resolve problems affecting the institution's operations as a result of the 12 November attempted coup. Dr Morris, who said the university administration was aware that both students and faculties were in fear because of the presence of soldiers guarding the university campus, admonished members of the university to go about their normal business and submit to security regulations at the UL gate whenever they are stopped.

Dr Morris was speaking in Monrovia today in an interview with the LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY at his office. The university's president said he plans to meet with the proper authorities to discuss issues affecting the university's operations in view of the dusk-to-down curfew currently in force. He said until such discussions were held to find means to accommodate the university's academic program under the present situation, all classes at the university after 1600, including those at the law school and the continuing education program will be temporarily discontinued. Dr Morris said, unless the situation was brought under control without further delay, the academic calendar will be thrown out of order. On the ban imposed on the provisional students leadership committee of the university, Dr Morris said the office of the student affairs would liaise between the students and the administration.

Meanwhile, Dr Morris has expressed concern about soldiers not being assigned at the university's (?central) campus where he said the university security personnel only keep guard up till 1600. He hoped that the government will assign soldiers there to safeguard the university's property.

Foreign Journalists Banned for 2 Weeks

AB191823 Paris AFP in French 1748 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Abidjan, 19 Nov (AFP) — In spite of the reopening of Robertsfield International Airport outside Monrovia, foreign journalists will not be allowed to visit Liberia in the next 2 weeks, it was learned today from the Liberian Embassy in Abidjan. The measure was cabled to the Liberian Embassy in Ivory Coast by the Liberian Ministry of Information which said it wanted to reduce the volume of news reports on the recent developments in the country.

Yesterday Liberian Information Minister Carlton Karpeh criticized the manner in which certain Anglo-Saxon media organizations had covered the coup attempt made last Tuesday by Captain Thomas Quiwonkpa [title as received] against President Samuel Doe's regime.

Security Chairman Advises Workers on Rebels

AB191850 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The deputy chairman of the board of directors of the Liberia Electricity Corporation, LEC, Colonel Edward Massaquoi, has called upon LEC employees to rally their human resources and work together in a spirit of national reconciliation, peace, and progress for the common good of Liberia and the Liberian people.

Col Massaquoi, who is also chairman of the joint security, was speaking today at the LEC Bushrod yard where he addressed LEC employees on a recent 12 November invasion by rebels under the command of the late former Commanding General Quiwonkpa. He told the LEC employees not to connive with all obscure forces that were determined to sabotage national development, adding: you should be fair to your conscience and always be mindful of your patriotic obligations in order to foster national development and unity.

The LEC deputy board chairman indicated that the Liberian Government will not be vindictive against those who were in support of the 12 November invasion, noting that the Government of Liberia is fostering a spirit of reconciliation so that the progress of national economic development will not be retarded. Col Massaquoi told the LEC employees to cooperate with security forces in tracking enemies of the state, most especially, the 12 November rebels. He told them to be honest and diligent in the execution of their respective assignments, with a note that the LEC is not a political organization.

Loitering Near Military Installations Prohibited

AB192056 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The Ministry of National Defense has warned individuals who it says are in a habit of loitering around military installations to desist as their presence is strictly prohibited. A Defense Ministry release issued today said it has been observed that several civilians are loitering around the Executive Mansion, the Ministry of Defense, and other military installations in and around Monrovia for enlistment into the Armed Forces of Liberia.

According to the release, the ministry is not recruiting at the moment. It however said when such a scheme is embarked upon, the public will be duly informed.

MALI

'Overgenerous' Aid Wrecks Local Food Markets

HK200208 Hong Kong AFP in English 0145 GMT
20 Nov 85

[By Chouaibou Bonkane]

[Text] Bamako, Nov 20 (AFP) — Over-generous international aid has saved Mali from the spectre of famine but wrecked local markets as many recipients sell off food surpluses to the detriment of farmers.

For this landlocked West African country, which originally asked international agencies for 233,000 tonnes of food aid, has already received 259,000, with a further 49,000 expected.

To make things worse, the basic aid ration of 50 kilos (110 pounds) of maize (corn) or wheat has been distributed to rich and poor alike, regardless of purchasing power. Many promptly put some of their share on sale to the highest bidder or exchanged it for other commodities like salt, tea or even tobacco.

Nearly a third of the country's estimated population of seven million were officially considered drought victims, and some of them, having received free food, have acquired a mentality of reliance on outside aid.

One recipient, who can now eat his fill but has no money and little to wear, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he expected to be given clothes next.

As a result, those farmers which have managed to produce food find the markets totally disrupted and have complained bitterly.

Now the government of General Moussa Traore, working with international donors, has decided to take action. New criteria are to be laid down on who should be eligible to receive food aid, and a programme to restructure the grain market is under way.

International aid for Mali is still necessary because the rural population in the north, the worst-hit part of the country on the southern edge of the Sahara Desert, was totally unprepared for this year's unexpected good rainfall.

The rains were better than those of the last three years combined, but bad planning meant that local farmers had no seeds to plant.

Despite the disruptions to the market through misdirection of aid, the really needy in the north only survived thanks to international solidarity.

The people in those areas have composed songs in praise of humanitarian agencies like the International Red Cross and World Vision International.

NIGER

Burkinabe Minister Meets Kountche, Comments

AB191925 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] This morning, General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, granted an audience to Burkinabe Planning and Development Minister Youssouf Ouedraogo who is currently taking part in the 21st ordinary ministerial meeting of the Liptako-Gourma Authority. After the audience, Mr Ouedraogo made the following statement to the national press.

[Begin recording] [Ouedraogo] I have just been received in audience by His Excellency President Kountche to whom I have conveyed a message of fraternity, friendship, and solidarity which Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and president of Burkina Faso, asked me to convey. As you know, our two countries have many things in common: they work toward the promotion of development for the benefit of the masses, and our priority objectives include the achievement of self-sufficiency in food production.

[Unidentified correspondent] In addition to the message, what did you discuss with President Seyni Kountche?

[Ouedraogo] As you know, we are now holding the 21st ordinary session of the Council of Ministers of the Liptako-Gourma Authority. We will certainly come back to your question. Meanwhile, you know that the Liptako-Gourma Authority is one of our many subregional organizations that enables us to promote our economic policies at the subregional level through the designing and implementation of priority plans of action as recommended by the heads of state at the Bamako conference in October 1984. Such plans are in the fields of self-sufficiency in food production, efforts to overcome our landlocked situation, as well as in the field of industrial development. These are the issues which I examined with His Excellency President Seyni Kountche. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Deadlines for Reconciling Claims Postponed

AB181648 Paris AFP in English 1632 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Lagos, Nov 18 (AFP) — Nigeria today postponed a deadline for reconciling claims by the country's foreign suppliers until the end of the month, a senior Nigerian official said.

The government had set a November 15 deadline for the authentication of claims by foreign firms that had sold Nigeria goods between 1979 and 1983.

Last week, nine European Economic Community (EEC) countries plus Spain and Portugal had asked Nigeria to "remove" the deadline and streamline procedures for the verification of claims. The Chase Manhattan Bank of London, acting at the request of Nigeria, has been verifying claims filed by suppliers, who are owed a total of four to six billion dollars. So far, the bank has verified nearly three billion dollars in claims, of which 800 million have been authenticated in turn by the Central Bank of Nigeria.

One EEC diplomat called the postponement a "gesture of goodwill" but he and other analysts agreed that the extra two weeks would not be nearly sufficient to complete the lengthy and complicated process of settling Nigeria's commercial trade arrears.

According to these sources, Nigerian importers have for the most part paid for their imports to the Central Bank in Naira, the Nigerian currency. But plummeting oil revenues have caused a shortfall in foreign exchange and long delays in settling overseas import bills. The sources stressed that more time would be needed for the exporters' claims to be successfully verified so that most, if not all, of the arrears can be paid off.

Nigeria has already issued promissory notes for the 800 million dollars in claims it has verified. According to these notes, the suppliers will be paid, with interest, over the next four years.

Ondo Governor Meets Freed Political Detainees

AB200930 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] In Ondo State, released political detainees have been warned against any form of political meetings. Addressing some of the freed persons in Akure, Governor Mike Akhigbe told them that their release was conditional and that they should not do anything that would embarrass the government. Commander Akhigbe said the Federal Government had not lifted the ban on politics. He said, however, that he would entertain genuine advice from them as indigenes of the state and not as leaders or representatives of banned political parties.

Papers View Failed Coup in Liberia, Doe Regime

AB181100 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Nov 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *DAILY TIMES* and the *NIGERIAN TRIBUNE* write on last Tuesday's coup attempt in Liberia and conclude that General Doe was lucky to have survived it. The papers say the last coup shows that Gen Doe is no longer acceptable as a genuine ruler of the Liberian people and that he cannot continue to impose himself on them. The *TIMES* believes that the abortive coup is also a vote of no confidence in the conduct and verdict of the recently concluded general election in which Doe was declared the winner. The papers advise the Liberian leader not to use the abortive coup as an excuse to engage in another round of witch-hunting of his political opponents because such a course of action will only serve to further alienate him from his people. The *TIMES* says an antidote to further coup attempts in Liberia will be for Gen Doe to grant a general amnesty to all political prisoners and those he has driven into exile.

The *TRIBUNE*, on its part, points out that although General Quiwonkpa, the leader of the abortive coup, is now dead for a better Liberia, his exit should not be a source of jubilation for Gen Doe and his supporters. This, according to the *TRIBUNE*, is because until Gen Doe rectifies his shortcomings which warranted the last coup, no one will miss him when his belated end comes.

The *TIMES* and the *TRIBUNE* are confident that the wishes of the Liberian people will eventually triumph.

SENEGAL

Minister Comments on Al-Qadhdhafi Visit 3-5 Dec

AB200900 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] While waiting to take up again the report on today's cabinet meeting in the 2200 GMT newscast, we must once again mention the official visit which President [title as heard] Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is to make from 3 to 5 December this year. On this occasion, the minister of information, telecommunications and relations with parliament, Djibo Ka, has answered questions from the national and international press.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Minister, President al-Qadhdhafi is going to pay an official visit to Senegal, a visit which certainly raises a number of questions considering that Senegal severed diplomatic relations with Libya on 1 July 1980. What is expected of this visit?

[Ka] This visit should not have raised any question, because, in fact, as you know, Senegal is pursuing an open, indpendent, and nonaligned foreign policy with the countries of the OAU. It is for this reason that it is natural — and in conformity with this policy which has been applied since the assumption of the leadership of the state by President Abdou Diouf — that Senegal should receive President al-Qadhdhafi, who is an African head of state. It is for all these reasons that I insist, again, on the fact that it is a normal visit, and I also stress — to emphasize the normal character of this visit — that what you have just referred to notwithstanding, Senegal has no dispute with any African state today; except of course with racist South Africa, whose system which is based on apartheid we are fighting against vigorously. What do we except of this visit? First, President Diouf, as OAU chairman, is going to discuss with President al-Qadhdhafi all problems of bilateral cooperation, African issues, and issues of foreign policy, beyond Africa. Thus there is no forbidden subject. We expect from this visit — as observers no doubt are aware — that it will once again be an occasion to demonstrate the maturity of Africa and of its leaders; it will also prove that Africa is capable, whenever it is necessary, to bring its decisive contribution to the examination and solution of the most important questions confronting the world today. This is the comment I wanted to make on your question.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Minister, yesterday, on one of the European radio stations, it was said that this visit constitutes a victory for the diplomacy of a certain country over another. What reflection does this comment bring from you?

[Ka] A simple but deep reflection. First of all, I wish to say that President al-Qadhdhafi's visit to President Diouf is a visit by one African head of state to another African head of state, who moreover has the task of leading the OAU, and that if we understand the context to be such, we would consider it regrettable that some commentators can make statements of this kind. Senegal is a country which is very faithful to its friendships. The friendships that we have with sister African countries are solid and faithful friendships, which we shall preserve intact. These are friendships which are not subject to the vagaries of circumstantial policy. It is for this reason that if this visit should be the victory of something over something else, it can only be the victory of Africa over itself. It cannot in any way be directed against anyone whosoever. This is why I am concluding by saying that it is important to us, in our position, that the African press has a duty to fulfill its responsibility and not always listen to what is said elsewhere, outside Africa, which is not always in the interest of Africa. This is the comment I wish to make.

[Unidentified correspondent] Can it be said that from this official visit onwards, Senegal is going to renew its diplomatic relations with Tripoli?

[Ka] I do not want to predict what may result from the decisions which the heads of state will make. But as I said a short while ago, there is no forbidden topic. Presidents Diouf and Al-Qadhdhafi will tackle all issues: bilateral cooperation between Libya and Senegal, African policy, world politics, and current economic issues.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Minister, you are aware that the Chadian issue is part of the topics for discussion between Presidents Diouf and Al-Qadhdhafi. Could you restate for us the official position of Senegal on this Chadian issue?

[Ka] Yes! You will undoubtedly remember that the OAU has entrusted the examination of the Chadian issue to the Congolese president who is in permanent contact with the chairman of the OAU, President Abdou Diouf.

Having said this, I would like to say that Senegal, as you may know, believes that Chad today has a legitimate authority in Ndjamena — President Hissein Habre — and that there is a Chadian opposition; and that Senegal ardently desires the reconciliation of all the sons of Chad to enable them to rebuild their country in unity and national concord. [end recording]

LE SOLEIL Discusses Relations with Libya

AB191936 Dakar PANA in French 1315 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Dakar, 19 Nov (APS-SEN/PANA) — The Tuesday edition of *LE SOLEIL* — Dakar pro-government daily — has commented extensively on the forthcoming visit to Senegal by the leader of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, which has not yet been officially confirmed by the Senegalese authorities.

In an article entitled Thaw [word indistinct], *LE SOLEIL*'s commentator recalled that relations between Senegal and Libya had been unsettled since the people's socialist revolution in Tripoli. *LE SOLEIL* recalled that relations between Senegal and Libya reached their height in 1976 with the official visit by Abdou Diouf to Libya as prime minister of Senegal at the time. Four years later, diplomatic relations between Dakar and Tripoli began deteriorating until the break on 1 July 1980.

It will be recalled that during his visit to Libya in 1976, Mr Diouf conveyed an invitation to Col al-Qadhdhafi from President Senghor to visit Dakar, but the Libyan head of state never visited Senegal. If Al-Qadhdhafi's visit were to take place this time, *LE*

SOLEIL writes, one would need to seek the underlying motives for this visit other than bilateral relations.

The commentator, who asserted that Dakar and Tripoli do not necessarily need a high-level summit to revive their bilateral relations, recalled in this regard the statements made by the Libyan minister of foreign affairs, Ali Turayki, to the SENEGALESE PRESS AGENCY during his last visit to Dakar: Senegal and Libya have decided to revive their cooperation in all fields ... and one can expect good results.

For *LE SOLEIL*, Al-Qadhdhafi's visit must be placed within an African context because the Senegalese head of state, the current OAU chairman, is determined to find a solution to the Chadian problem, and to make it possible for Morocco and Zaire to return to the OAU. The daily recalled that Al-Qadhdhafi plays a key role in these two issues.

LE SOLEIL finally considered that since Libya is responsible for the conflicts in the Maghreb, it is certain that other issues other than bilateral relations will be discussed at a possible Diouf-al-Qadhdhafi meeting.

Diouf To Visit Zaire, France, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia

AB201030 Paris AFP in French 0835 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Dakar, 20 Nov (AFP) — Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, the current chairman of the OAU, will arrive on 24 November in Kinshasa where he will make a 24-hour stopover on his way to France on an official visit, it was learned from an official source on Tuesday. The source added that while in Kinshasa, Mr Diouf will take part in the ceremonies marking the 20th anniversary of Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko's accession to power.

Moreover, the Senegalese president will make a working visit to Kuwait on 30 November and to Saudi Arabia on 1 December, an official source has specified.

Food Aid Agreement Signed With Japenese Envoy

AB182300 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Mamadou Toure, the minister of economy and finance, and Mr Manabu Yamamoto, Japan's ambassador in Senegal, this morning signed and exchanged notes of an agreement covering 950 million CFA francs accorded to our country by Japan. Philippe Ndogoya was present at the ceremony.

This agreement, presented as a grant, comes as part of the Japanese food aid program to our country. This agreement signed by Mamadou Toure and Manabu Yamamoto should enable our country to buy 6,250 metric tons of Thai rice, to pay for its transport by sea, and to insure it. As you can see, permanence and continuity have once again characterized the friendly relations between our two countries. The finance minister has said it: Japan and Senegal have been able to consolidate and strengthen their cooperation despite a difficult international economic situation. Mamadou Toure recalled and expressed satisfaction with the many Japanese actions in favor of our country, especially in the food aid sector.

[Begin Toure recording] In fact, while for some 10 years our country has suffered from persistent drought which has hampered the development process, particularly the efforts which we have been making to attain food self-sufficiency, the support of your country has never eluded us. Throughout this period, and in a constant manner, you have given us food aid which up to the present totals nearly 2.5 billion yen, that is about 4.5 billion CFA francs. [end recording]

(?This is in addition to) a total of 5,925 metric tons of rice and 4,000 metric tons of wheat between 1979 and 1984. Ambassador Yamamoto said his country is following with interest the efforts being made by Senegal to overcome the crisis despite the many years of drought which have disturbed the farmers' lives. He praised the courage and determination of the Senegalese authorities in the framework of the structural reforms which they have been pursuing, of which one of the key elements is the new agricultural policy.

[Begin Yamamoto recording] We hope that our food aid, which is aimed at making up for your food shortage and checking the drain on your foreign earnings, will be used in conformity [words indistinct]. [end recording]

SIERRA LEONE

Government Again Denies Backing Liberian Rebels

AB200740 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] The office of the president yesterday issued the following statement in response to an accusation made by the Liberian Government:

It will be recalled that on the 15th of November 1985, the government issued a statement denying any knowledge of Sierra Leoneans taking part in the attempt to overthrow the Government of Liberia and also dissociated itself from any action which threatened to destabilize the Government of the Republic of Liberia. Over the last weekend, at a press briefing given by the head of state of Liberia for diplomats accredited to that country, the BBC reported that allegations were made by the Liberian head of state that the Government of Sierra Leone provided certain facilities like accommodation for training and police trucks for conveying the rebels to Liberia.

The Government of Sierra Leone rejects the allegation that it provided any barrack accommodation and transportation facilities for the rebels. The Government of Sierra Leone also wishes to state that it has no knowledge of rebel soldiers using its territory. The Government of Sierra Leone, once more, wishes to dissociate itself from the attempt to overthrow the Government of Liberia and to stress that the allegations about the involvement of Sierra Leoneans to destabilize the Government of Liberia are not to its knowledge.

TOGO

OAU's Oumarou Meets President Eyadema, Comments

AB182156 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the republic, granted an audience at the Presidential Palace to OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou who arrived in our capital early on Saturday night. After more than 1 hour of talks this morning with President Eyadema in the presence of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Koffi Amega, the OAU secretary general told the press that he had come to thank the Togolese head of state, President Eyadema, for the efforts made in the organization of the OAU-sponsored Pan-African Trade Fair. He was also happy about the advice given him by Gen Eyadema in order to help him to better discharge his duty as the head of the pan-African organization in both political and economic fields. Let us listen to Mr Oumarou:

[Begin recording] [Oumarou] First of all, I would like to express my happiness about the audience given me by President Eyadema. This audience has occurred shortly after my assumption of the functions as the head of our organization. This is a courtesy call, which is normal. I took the opportunity to thank President Eyadema for the efforts and sacrifices made by himself, his government, and the Togolese people in the organization of the Fourth Pan-African Trade Fair. As you know, in these hard times facing our states, hosting such an event is an act of faith and I believe that Africa should take this into consideration.

Meanwhile, President Eyadema and I reviewed, as you said, current issues including first of all the problems facing Africa. I am very pleased to tell you that from my audience with President Eyadema, I have drawn very useful lessons not only for the discharge of my duties as the head of our organization but also for my own analysis of African problems. As you are aware, Africa is going through a crisis now. The continent faces many problems; and there are prerequisites for Africa to deal with these problems. These prerequisites are African solidarity and the cohesion of African states and people, as well as the capability of African politicians to understand and control current developments in order to translate them into concrete actions with the view to coping with the situation which we are going through.

President Eyadema and I thus discussed Africa's numerous economic problems, the most preoccupying of them being evidently the continent's indebtedness. On this point, President Eyadema has clear-cut and relevant views. As you know, the weight of our debts on our various economies is now on the verge of becoming unbearable. Since we, at the OAU Secretariat, have been mandated to prepare the upcoming international conference on African debts, President Eyadema's views will serve as directives for me as to how we should orient our efforts in order to [words indistinct].

In addition to this, we also examined the continent's political problems which are also quite important. But I think that (?we agree) that African unity must undoubtedly be reorganized. The unity of the people of Africa and their cohesion: these are necessary to enhance the complementarity and solidarity among Africans and to make it possible for them to solve the economic problems facing the continent.

In a nutshell, these are the problems which I had the honor of examining with President Eyadema. I want to repeat that from these discussions, I have drawn very useful lessons which I will use extensively both in the reorganization of the secretariat and in my future political action as the head of our organization.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Secretary General, of late we have heard a lot about South-South cooperation, namely between African countries. The major subregional organizations are busy with this; so is the OAU. But what concrete initiatives does the OAU plan to take in order to materialize such exchanges?

[Oumarou] As you know, the measures at the OAU are made by the decision-making bodies of the organization; such bodies include essentially the ministerial conference and the summit of heads of state. In this connection, I feel that the fourth trade fair which we are going to open soon here is a demonstration of the OAU's willingness to act in compliance with the decisions made to enable African countries to better know one another and to facilitate the flow of exchanges among African countries. People have always deplored with good reason the insufficient exchanges among our states. But what is the cause of this situation? It is our poor knowledge of African market opportunities; it is our lack of knowledge of the products which are sometimes available in a neighboring country. Sometimes, neighboring countries do not know what each produces. When countries do not know one another's production potential or the variety of such production, it is not possible to foster exchanges among them. It was in view of all this that it was decided to organize such events as the Pan-African Trade Fair precisely in order to promote knowledge of our states' production potential, and as a result to promote the knowledge of the production potential of the continent. This will also enable Africans to truly get to know about African markets.

So the OAU will measure up to its duty by encouraging such exchanges. In the changes and updating exercise which we will embark on at the level of the secretariat, we will take measures so that the resolutions of the decision-making bodies can be most efficiently and fully implemented. Once again, I will say that the OAU Secretariat is not a decision-making body; instead, it implements the decisions made by these bodies. In this field, I assure that I intend to make the secretariat capable of discharging any duty that the continent's bodies assign to it. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Military Commander Denounces RSA Buildup on Border

MB200831 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] An ANGOP dispatch from Lubango dated 19 November reports that Major (Luis Parceira), the commander of the 5th military region, has denounced the concentration of South African troops near Angola's southern border. The senior FAPLA officer pointed out that about 20,000 men in a composition of 3 brigades, 18 battalions independent from the infantry, and 2 landing [desembarque] and assault battalions are converging in a threatening manner on the southern border supported by 150 tanks, 400 artillery pieces, 300 mortars, hundreds of landing and assault vehicles, and 80 aircraft and helicopters. Maj (Luis Parceira) added that this South African buildup is concentrated in northern Namibia, a territory that is illegally occupied by the Pretoria regime, and is ready to invade the sovereign territory of the People's Republic of Angola. The denunciation of this further Machiavellian plan by racist South Africa was made by Maj (Luis Parceira) during the opening session of the meeting of the Directorate for the Organization and Mobilization of the FAPLA General Staff. Thus, he appealed that all Angolans carry out their sacred duty to courageously defend the fatherland to the end.

Further on Buildup

MB201233 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] A large-scale invasion of the territory of the People's Republic of Angola by South Africa is imminent. Major (Luis Parceira), the commander of the 5th military region, made this denunciation in Lubango yesterday based on the movement of South African troops near the border with occupied Namibia. This movement usually signals the prelude of South African Army invasions.

He said that 20,000 men who compose 3 brigades, 18 battalions independent of the infantry, and 2 landing and assault battalions are concentrated very near the border, supported by 150 tanks, 400 artillery pieces, 300 mortars, hundreds of landing and assault vehicles and 80 aircraft and helicopters.

This documented information given by the commander of the 5th military region reaffirms and certifies that the retrograde Pretoria regime has no intention whatsoever of stopping its hostile attitude toward the Angolan state and that in supporting its protege, it is ready to take all possible steps (?regardless) of the *damage that its action* causes to the stability of the region. South Africa is not alone in its support for Angolan renegades. The United States, as has been stated on several occasions, also extends its protecting hand to UNITA and is presently discussing granting considerable military support to the group.

MOZAMBIQUE

Dos Santos Says RSA Continues Supporting MNR

MB191857 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] A Mozambican leader, Marcelino dos Santos, [words indistinct] said the apartheid regime is continuing with logistical support to the MNR terrorists despite the scandal of its violation of the Nkomati nonaggreession pact. Mr dos Santos told visiting Western nongovernmental organizations at Sofala Province's port city of Beira that he has received information from Manica Province of constant supplies to the MNR by South African planes and helicopters.

Representatives of the Western nongovernmental organizations have been visiting over the weekend the district of Gorongosa, where relief centers have been established in the aftermath of the capture of MNR's Casa Banana at Gorongosa mountain. The visitors were shown the relief center set up by the Mozambican authorties for the victims of MNR banditry. They saw the miserable conditions to which 4 years of MNR occupation have reduced the peasant workers of Gorongosa district.

Mr dos Santos said although the MNR terrorists have been driven out of Casa Banana, it was still necessary to carry out operations on the slope of the mountain where MNR groups have taken refuge in caves.

Mr dos Santos said the bandits, who have now dispersed in small groups, will be chased and eliminated through the political and military organizations of the local people.

Mr dos Santos told the visitors that apartheid is under pressure from all sides, but still refuses to die. [Words indistinct], certain Western countries which are reluctant to take measures against South Africa because of their economic interests. Mr dos Santos called for an end to what he called this shortsighted attitude. He said Western countries should switch their investments away from South Africa to the SADCC countries.

Press Release Issued Following Talks With Iraq

MB190610 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 18 Nov 85

["Press release" on the third session of the Joint Mozambique-Iraq Standing Cooperation Commission; issued in Maputo — date not given]

[Text] The third session of the Joint Mozambique-Iraq Standing Cooperation Commission was held in Maputo from 11 to 14 November 1985 to assess progress since the second session held in Baghdad. The Iraqi delegation was led by His Excellency Tariq Hamid 'Abdallah, minister of light industries of the Republic of Iraq. The Mozambican delegation was led by His Excellency Colonel Sergio Vieira, minister of security of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

During its stay, the Iraqi delegation laid a wreath at the Heroes Monument. The head of the delegation was received by His Excellency Marshal of the Republic Samora Moises Machel, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique. He also held talks with Joaquim Chissano, minister of foreign affairs; Jacinto Veloso, minister in the presidency for economic affairs; both members of the Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party Central Committee; and with Rui Baltazar, member of the People's Assembly Standing Commission and acting minister of planning; the minister of foreign trade; and the governor of the Bank of Mozambique.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. Both sides regretted the fact that the war situation faced by the two countries has created obstacles to the development of cooperation between the Republic of Iraq and the People's Republic of Mozambique. They pledged to make efforts to overcome the difficulties faced by the two countries.

In reviewing the present international political situation, in particular the situation in their respective geopolitical subregions and subcommissions [as heard], the two sides assessed with deep apprehension the increase in repression, violence, and massacres carried out by the Pretoria regime against the defenseless people struggling inside South Africa for the abolition of the apartheid system.

The Iraqi side condemned South Africa for the nonobservance of the Nkomati Accord. Both sides demanded an end to South African aggression against Angola and the application of UN Resolution 435 on the question of Namibia.

With regard to the Middle East, the two delegations expressed their support for the struggle of the Palestinian people led by the PLO to fulfill their legitimate and inalienable rights, which include the creation of a free and sovereign fatherland. The two delegations condemned the aggressive Zionist policy and demanded the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories.

The Mozambican side expressed its concern over the continuation of the conflict between Iran and Iraq, which are members of the Nonaligned Movement, and also expressed its desire to see this conflict resolved on the basis of the principles and decisions of that movement and other international organizations in the interest of the two peoples and as a contribution to world peace. The Mozambican side expressed its desire that the warring factions rapidly begin peace talks based on the principles of noninterference in domestic affairs, the right of each people to choose their social and political system, and respect for international boundaries. The Mozambican delegation noted with satisfaction that the Iraqi side has agreed to begin talks based on these principles.

The Mozambican delegation expressed its appreciation for the support provided by the Iraqi Government to the People's Republic of Mozambique in the difficult moments of the Rhodesian aggression.

The two sides congratulated each other on the results attained during the third session and expressed the desire to reestablish bilateral economic cooperation in the letter and spirit of the existing accords between the two countries.

The Iraqi delegation expressed its gratitude for the fraternal and warm reception accorded to it by the people and Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The two delegations agreed that the fourth session of the joint commission will be held in Baghdad in 1986 at a date to be set through diplomatic channels.

6 'Armed Bandits' Killed in Zambezia Province

MB191744 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] In a military operation carried out in Namarroi, Zambezia Province, on 10 November, our troops shot six armed bandits to death. The operation took place in the border area between Namarroi and Lugela districts. The armed bandits also suffered several wounded, and FPLM recovered a number of goods that had been stolen from the residents by the criminals.

Meanwhile, our Zambezia provincial correspondent reports from Namarroi that in addition to the search and destroy operations against the enemy, the Mozambique Armed Forces stationed in the area have taken part with the local residents in the reconstruction of the infrastructure damaged by the armed bandits.

SOUTH AFRICA

National Party Caucus Supports Government Reforms

MB191525 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The National Party [NP] caucus in Pretoria has said it supports the government's reform measures and various other actions by the government. The more than 280 delegates unanimously accepted the motion this afternoon at an extraordinary caucus meeting.

The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said the meeting, which was attended by NP members of parliament, the President's Council, and Provincial Councils, was progressing well and various matters were discussed in depth.

Further on Caucus

MB191613 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpts] The National Party Caucus in Pretoria has said it supports the government's reform measures and various other actions by the government.

The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said the political, economic, and security situation had been discussed in depth and in the resolution the caucus had underwritten the steps taken by the government to order and stabilize society. Action to allow constitutional reform to take place on a basis of negotiation had also

been underwritten. The caucus had conformed government action to maintain and expand international relations without affecting the country's independence in decisionmaking.

The resolution also supported the steps taken by the government to stimulate economic growth and development.

SADF Spokesman Declines Comment on Angolan Claims

MB201415 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] A regional commander of the Angolan army in Huila Province in the south of Angola, Major (Parciera), has alleged that the SADF is building up a presence of troops, artillery, and helicopters in northern South-West Africa close to the Angolan border. He told ANGOP, the Angolan News Agency, that the South African forces, supported by 150 tanks, a few hundred armored vehicles, artillery and mortars, were preparing to invade Angola. A spokesman for the SADF refused to comment on the allegations, when approached by our military correspondent.

HNP Leader Interviewed on Network Program

MB181429 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Interview with Herstigte Nasionale Party Leader Jaap Marais in Johannesburg by Willem de Klerk on the "Network" Program — live]

[Text] The Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP — Reformed National Party] has recently won a seat for the first time in its 16 years of existence in the by-election at Sasolburg. The leader of the HNP is with us tonight in the studio and Willem de Klerk talks to him.

[De Klerk] Mr Marais, we welcome you tonight. The nature of this program is that we critically examine the cause for which the guest stands. Sasolburg has brought the HNP into the news once more and that is why you are here tonight. The first question I would like to ask you concerns the accusation that you are holding on to the dead hand of the past, that the voices of Malan, Strydom, and Verwoerd are virtually hollow voices, and that you do not take the changing circumstances of development into consideration. What is your answer to that?

[Marais] In the great change that has taken place, the National Party [NP] has lost its whole nature, and the HNP today is the revived national party.

[De Klerk] I am referring to a change in situation in South Africa, in the reality of South Africa.

[Marais] The situation that has changed has been brought about by the NP because it has changed its nature. It could not have remained the National Party and done the things it has done.

[De Klerk] Do you think the NP's old policy that you are now adhering to can have any hope of success? The view is that it is an old, forgotten policy that had not succeeded. For example, one of the aspects was that the homelands were the only political outlets for blacks. It did not work. What is your answer to that?

[Marais] Look, there are only two basic principles in South African politics: a national basic principal or a liberal principle. We subscribe to the national basic principle. The liberal basic principle has been a failure all over Africa and it is beginning to fail visibly in South Africa. We have an economic dilemma, we have outside isolation, we have internal violence, all indicators of the failure of this policy.

[De Klerk] Mr Marais, that is a good answer, but I am not going to free you from the other argument. The HNP's view is that we must return to the Malan/Strydom/Verwoerd era. I say one of their essential points was homeland development and independent economies. It did not work, but you want to reintroduce it. How will you succeed?

[Marais] It did not work because the NP has put an end to the policy since Dr Verwoerd's time. It was succeeding. Look, Dr Verwoerd said that by 1978 the stream of blacks to white's areas should end, and by the year 2000, there should not be more blacks than whites in white areas, but there should be a migrant black community.

[De Klerk] That is still your standpoint?

[Marais] That is still our standpoint, yes.

[De Klerk] But it is not happening. How are you going to make it happen?

[Marais] When we take over the reins of government, we will reintroduce it.

[De Klerk] How are you going to do it?

[Marais] Through economic measures.

[De Klerk] Through establishing an independent economy in the homelands?

[Marais] Through development of the homelands in terms of the requirements of these communities, through building proper infrastructures, by decentralizing industries to the homeland border areas, by building a rapid transport service to get them home so that they spend their income there. That is the important thing.

[De Klerk] But it did not work, Mr Marais.

[Marais] It was in the process of succeeding. That is why Dr Verwoerd was removed.

[De Klerk] On the whole question of black influx, are you going to force these blacks to go back to the homelands? If you succeed — and it is not economically viable to build up a large homeland economy — how are you going to move the man from here and put him down there?

[Marais] Through economic measures. You make it more attractive for the man to go there, and we must be prepared, as whites, to make sacrifices to achieve this.

[De Klerk] And if the man does not want to go there?

[Marais] Well, then we will certainly have to convince them that their rights here will be very limited.

[De Klerk] Do you still stand for discrimination and discriminatory legislation, Mr Marais?

[Marais] Look, discrimination is simply the converse of preference. You cannot practice preference without discrimination and a community has the right to discriminate in favor of its own interests. If it does not do it, then nationalism cannot exist.

[De Klerk] Do you want it incorporated in firm preferential legislation?

[Marais] Yes, definitely. If it is moral to prefer that a community ensures its existence, then it is also moral to include it in legislation.

[De Klerk] Is it moral? You know it is also said that your party is openly, and in some case secretly, building up racism. Is racism, in the sense of self-elevation and rejection of another race, moral? What is you answer to that?

[Marais] Well, that is a very arbitrary definition of racism because if we are racist, then the NP under Malan, Strydom, and Verwoerd was also racist. We stand for the same principles for which they stood.

[De Klerk] You are referring again to Malan, Strydom, and Verwoerd, who did not have Godly insights. They were people who drafted certain policies for their time, policies which you and I supported at that time. But you have remained an adherent of their beliefs. It is not a good argument to say because they espoused racism, you should do the same. I have here...[changes thought] in one of the pamphlets you say: In this way, the whites have taken on a superior place in the world which gives them greater political power, high living standards, and greater responsibility. Essentially, this is a self-elevation, a sort of chauvinism. Answer me please, Mr Marais, because you are being attacked very strongly.

[Marais] I can answer it in one word. What appears there are pure historical facts. Anyone who challenges that wants to ignore history.

[De Klerk] Is it not also an historical fact that there is a great development currently taking place among the blacks, economically, politically, socially, and that they are becoming equal in many fields to their peers in South Africa, the whites?

[Marais] It is very artificial. If you look at Africa where the blacks are free and you look at history, nowhere in the world and never in history has there been a single black society which could elevate itself to the living standard of a white society.

[De Klerk] Do you feel they will be doomed eternally in a subordinate position?

[Marais] No, not in a subordinate position but in a different position.

[De Klerk] Mr Marais, I want to ask you. If I say that your policy is politically, economically, and internationally impracticable, what is you answer to that impracticable aspect?

[Marais] It is more practicable than the present policy being followed.

[De Klerk] Why?

[Marais] The present policy can only have one consequence, and that is as demonstrated in the rest of Africa that when you begin to accept equality on economic, social, cultural, and political bases, then it leads to 1-man, 1-vote and a total collapse of the economic and political order. As for us, our policy has been proved in South Africa. When Dr Verwoerd was alive, the growth rate was 6 percent and the inflation rate 2 percent. We won the international court case. South Africa stood unassailable in international politics, and we had internal order and peace, in contrast to what we have today.

[De Klerk] Are you saying that it is the policy direction in the country that has brought unrest and economic problems?

[Marais] Look, the unrest springs chiefly from the increasing expectations that are created by the continuing concessions and reforms and adjustments made to appease the outside world.

[De Klerk] You see, you and I remain at odds on this point, Mr Marais. I say the policy had to be changed because Verwoerd's policy did not succeed. It has been proven to be a failure. Therefore, we had to change. You cannot show our viewers satisfactorily that the policy really worked and still can. I want you to clarify the impracticability to the viewers.

[Marais] I told you just now what the prevailing situation was when Dr Verwoerd lived. We had a strong economy, we had a strong international position, and we had internal order. What more do you require in a country? Look at the current chaotic situation. We cannot pay our debts, we are sitting with an inflation rate of 16 percent, people are busy going bankrupt at a unprecedented rate, unemployment is increasing, and that is all the ... [changes thought]. Let me tell you this. The basic cause for all this is that the government started a policy of equality. If equality is to succeed, it will have to succeed at the economic level, and if it collapses there, then it will not succeed anywhere.

[De Klerk] People who study these things say that the economic crisis, or some aspects of it, is caused, among other things, by the fact that the outside world feels that the government is not progressing fast enough with its policy. Do you think that the outside world — if you had to come to power — would applaud your policy and not withdraw loans and not impose economic sanctions? If the present government is suffering under foreign anger and injustice, how would your government handle the outside world?

[Marais] You should not become exposed to the pressure from outside.

[De Klerk] How do you do that?

[Marais] Over a number of years, the government mismanaged its finances in an effort to secure loans quickly and did not take into consideration when they must be repaid. This has left the government exposed to outside pressure. Second, the government has shown the outside world that when it applies pressure, the government yields, thereby inviting greater pressure.

[De Klerk] You are minimizing, in your pamphlet and also here, the boycotts, the international pressure, as if it is child's play. When we look at our current position, with a sport boycott, economic boycott, postal boycott, film and television threats of boycotts, South African Airways landing rights threats, technological boycotts — all these things are happening to a so-called enlightened government. How can you guarantee that if you get your way the outside world will not be more aggresive toward us? What guarantees are there? Let's be practical.

[Marais] You are referring to an enlightened government. It seems that more radicalism is more blindness.

[De Klerk] I differ from you naturally.

[Marais] The fact is ... [changes thought] I do not see it as a game. I think you are making an incorrect assumption when you say games. The fact is that the outside world exercises pressure to further its goals in South Africa. Their aims are unreconciliable with white existence. The outside world wants one-man, one-vote in South Africa, and it would be completely naive to think that any party in South Africa, even the Progressive Federal Party [PFP], can appease the outside world. Thus we must decide what the important demands are for us, and then we must be prepared to stand.

[De Klerk] There is another aspect, the impracticable aspect is one thing we discussed. You feel there is practicability. I differ with you. Then there is the aspect of acceptability. I will make my point, then you can talk about it at length. This policy you are advocating is politically unacceptable for the great majority of South Africa because it will cause a greater revolution than at present. It is as unacceptable to the nonwhite voters as it is unacceptable to the great majority of white voters. It is unacceptable as an ideal because it does not present a settlement model, and it is morally unacceptable. What do you say about acceptability, Mr Marais.

[Marais] Look, concerning the blacks, the ANC and the United Democratic Front will not be satisfied by a PFP government. That cannot be considered a criterion. Regarding the whites, Sasolburg has shown that the HNP's policy is more acceptable in the Orange Free State than the NP's policy.

[De Klerk] Does one swallow make a summer?

[Marais] Well, according to present statistics, indications are that there are 50 seats which are in the same position as Sasolburg and that in the Transvaal, the swing is already enough for a majority win against the government.

[De Klerk] Statistics are not accurate. The argument is that there is a consolidation of rightist groups but there will also be a consolidation of other groups and this will always be a good two-thirds majority (whites) above the consolidated rightist groups. That is also a statistical argument.

[Marais] I think you are making a mistake. The more the NP moves to the left, the more it will lose Afrikaner support and will end up in the same position as the United Party [UP]. Indeed the NP is the old UP today but with an NP [word indistinct].

[De Klerk] Are you, is your party strongly linked with the ideas of Eugene Terre'blanch, for example.

[Marais] No, we have said publicly that the Afrikaans Weerstandsbeweging [AWB — Afrikaans Resistance Movement] states that the political struggle will fail and therefore there should be an alternative. I told them if you are honest and you say the political struggle is going to fail then you must state the alternative while you are busy with the political struggle, or you land in a difficult position where you will not be able to advance your struggle with justice.

[De Klerk] You do not agree entirely with the sort of militarism that emerges from the AWB?

[Marais] Definitely not. I believe in party politics.

[De Klerk] How is it going with your consolidation of rightists, Mr Marais, with the Conservative Party and yourselves. I do not want you to divulge secrets but are you making progress or have you reached in impasse?

[Marais] We progressed reasonably until the recent elections. In Vryburg we clashed with each other and that has disturbed our relations somewhat. But we share a great deal in common. There are differences, but these are not unbridgeable. There is the historical factor — these people remained in the NP for a long time while we fought the NP, which is perhaps the single most important factor between us.

[De Klerk] Do you really see in the near future a greater consolidation of rightist voting power in South Africa under one flag?

[Marais] I think that it will still take some time for the parties to join together. I do not believe in a merger. It is artificial but by a progression of common actions where we undertake to do things together, mutual trust will grow and then there will be a growing together that will be meaningful.

[De Klerk] Mr Marais, another charge is that you appeal with emotion to the voter. Your emotions create anxiety and do not allow people to be honest and rational about the situation in South Africa. What is your answer?

[Marais] I think all parties do it. The quotation of Mr P.W. Botha, "adapt or die;" what is it if not a threat?

[De Klerk] Is it not reality?

[Marais] If that is reality, then it still remains a threat that you must change against your will, if you do not want to die. I think it should read "adapt and die"; you will kill yourself by this constant change. Then you will get to the stage where you can no longer be your true self.

[De Klerk] You do not want to adjust. You do not believe in the idea of the advance of history which sets new demands.

[Marais] I do not call for change and reform and adjustment. I call for strength, intensity, elevation, those are the factors with which a nation can protect itself.

[De Klerk] Never change, Mr Marais?

[Marais] No, change is a thing that will come by itself, but I would not say a person must just tell people to change. You must tell them how they must change and why, what must change, and that is precisely the confusion existing in politics today where the government is talking of reform but it does not say in what direction, and why, and how.

[De Klerk] Well, the big discussion in politics will revolve around where and why and when. Mr Marais, many thanks for the talk we had and I wish you well. Thank you.

[Marais] Thank you.

PFP Issues Statement After Prison Inspection Tour

MB151944 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1747 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 15, SAPA — Several cases of assault were today reported by detainees to a Progressive Federal Party [PFP] inspection of the Johannesburg and Modderbee prisons, a PFP statement said.

The tour of the prisons was undertaken by Dr Marius Barnard, MP for Parktown, and Mr Peter Soal, MP for Johannesburg North, as part of the parliamentary standing committee on health.

The statement, issued by Dr Barnard and Mr Soal, said:

"Today we visited the Johannesburg prison and the Modderbee prison as part of a tour of inspection as part of the parliamentary standing committee on health.

"At Johannesburg prison we found there were 224 detainees, most of whom were young people. We came across a group of 14 young people in a cell, who agreed to speak to representatives of the PFP and to the National Party, because they are the governing party. They refused to have anything to do with any of the other MPs. Of the 14, 11 claimed they had been assaulted, nine by police at John Vorster Square and at Protea Police station; and two, of whom one said he had been punched by a prisons officer and one alleged he had been affected by teargas.

"The two allegations of assault by the prison authorities and of the nine allegations of assault by the police, we and the prisons authorities present were given details of six of the incidents.

"We will communicate these details to the minister of law and order with the request we will be allowed to follow the cases through with the district surgeon," the statement said.

"We were also advised that there are 35 allegations of assault by the police which are being investigated. We will ask the minister of law and order to release details of the outcome of these investigations as soon as possible.

"Detainees complained about the quality and quantity of food, the occasional infrequency of exercise periods and two detainees claimed they had been given electric shocks by the police.

"These details will be conveyed to the minister. A discussion concerning assaults and medical care of the detainees was held with the district surgeon. He did not deny having seen evidence of assaults.

"He could not give us details of where the assaults had taken place or who had inflicted them, but suggested they did not take place in prison.

"We found that a half-hour discussion with the district surgeon was inadequate and intend asking for further interviews with district surgeons at prisons.

"At Modderbee there were 83 detainees. We found the attitude of the authorities towards the detainees to be more aggressive than at Johannesburg and the situation to be generally depressing.

"In the communal cells the windows are shuttered, the rooms are dark, badly in need of painting, poorly lit and the sanitary arrangements are inadequate.

"Some students complained about not being allowed to write their examination. Most groups refused to speak to us.

"It is obvious that when these people are eventually released they will be more opposed to the system of apartheid than ever before.

"We are most concerned about the situation and remain convinced that the state of emergency should be lifted as soon as possible.

"In addition, all detainees should be released forthwith," the joint statement said.

Government Blocks Mandela, Boesak Trip to U.S.

MB191229 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Organizers of an American human rights awards say the South African Government prevented Winnie Mandela and Allan Boesak from traveling to the United States. An official of the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation said she believes

Pretoria has blocked attempts by Dr Boesak to have his passport returned and adds that Mrs Mandela has received no reply to her request for a passport.

A South African Embassy official in Washington says he has no information that Mrs Mandela even applied; and he rejected claims that the confiscation of Dr Boesak's passport was an attempt by his government to prevent the church leader from traveling to the United States.

The third recipient of the award, Beyers Naude, of the South African Council of Churches is on his way Washington.

Mowbray Inter-Race Group Meeting Banned

MB200459 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2105 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 19, SAPA — Tomorrow night's proposed meeting of the Mowbray Inter-Race Group [MIRGE] at the Rondebosch Congregational Church has been banned by Brig Chris Swart, divisional commissioner of the Western Cape. The meeting was to have been addressed by the rector-designate of the university of the Western Cape, Professor Jakes Gerwel.

Brig Swart, who banned the meeting in terms of the emergency regulations, said it applied to gatherings at the church "or anywhere in the state of emergency areas."

The ban was in terms of Regulation 6 of the Public Safety Act (Act 3 of 1953), in conjunction with Proclamation R121 of July 21, 1985, read with proclamation R201 of October 26, 1985. Magisterial districts which fall under the emergency declaration are Wynberg, Cape Town, Simonstown, Goodwood, Bellville and Kuilsriver. MIRGE's aims and objectives are stated as: "To help break down the artificial barriers dividing and alienating people from one another in South Africa today."

The group attempts to provide platforms for voicing the opinions of "African and coloured" community leaders on requirements for meaningful change through "contact" evenings throughout the peninsula. Sir Richard Luyt, a former principal of UCT [University of Cape Town] and a patron of MIRGE, said tonight he was appalled by the ban.

"The whole purpose of MIRGE is to promote a better understanding between our communities," he said. Mr Brian Bishop, the vice-chairman of the Civil Rights League, said: "MIRGE has brought people form all walks of life together. "The speakers at the meeting would have contributed to the peace we so badly need."

West Cape Group Holds Meeting Under Conditions

MB200456 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2109 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 19, SAPA — The annual general meeting [AGM] of the Civil Rights League in the Western Cape was permitted tonight — on condition that the state of emergency or detentions in terms of the state of emergency were not discussed. Brigadier C.A. Swart, divisional commissioner for the Western Cape, issued the conditions.

The league's chairman, Mr Keith Gottschalk, said at the AGM in Rondebosch that the government had "launched an unprecedented attack on the league. We have to criticise the government, as it is the party using enormous force to suppress people in South Africa."

Mr Gottschalk said the government had no regard for the minimum use of force. Professor Denis Davis, a law lecturer at UCT [University of Cape Town], said the state had been unable to manage conflict within existing legal constraints.

"The government has attempted to use the legal process to delegitimise its real opposition, the extra-parliamentary organisations. In failing to do this, it has had little alternative but to use draconian extra-legal measures."

Prof Davis said there had been recent signs of judicial concern over the "authoritarian attitude of the executive" and courts were coming to view themselves as custodians of reform.

NUM Rejects Job Security for White Mine Employees

MB181043 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1028 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, Nov 18, SAPA — The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has rejected the Chamber of Mines Statement in which white workers are assured of security of employment after the implementation of the new non-racial employment provisions.

The research officer for NUM, Mrs Manoko Nchwe, said the statement by the chamber's president, Mr Clive Knobbs, at the week-end was one-sided in favour of whites. It did not contain any assurance that the new "competent person" provision to be brought into effect by next year in place of the existing "scheduled person" provision would be implemented in practice.

NUM believed it would be brought into effect "in theory only," she said. "In other words if there is a competent black person and a non-competent white person available for a job, the white person will still be given the job," she said.

The union had all along asked to be included in all the talks concerning the removal of discriminatory employment practices on the mines, but the chamber had refused to allow it to participate in the discussions the chamber had had with the white unions, Mrs Nchwe said.

Twelve Trade Unions Support New Federation

MB191709 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1542 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Cape Town, Nov 19, SAPA — Twelve trade unions have pledged their support for the new federation of trade unions to be launched in Durban later this month.

In a statement yesterday the South African Co-Ordinating Council said that the International Union of Food [IUF] and allied workers at a meeting in Johannesburg last weekend resolved that the formation of the new federation heralded a democratic step forward for the working class and democratic forces.

The IUF said that it supported the fundamental principles that formed the basis of the federation and that it would seek to forge stronger relations with it.

The position of the new federation to work in alliance with other progressive organisations and to participate in the broader struggle for freedom and justice for all people in South Africa, will advance the interests of workers in South Africa, the IUF said.

Athlone High School Defies Education Department

MB200506 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2001 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 19, SAPA — The entire staff at the Alexander Sinton High School in Athlone have defied instructions from the Department of Education and Culture that they administer internal examinations and have condemned the department's "harassment" of teachers.

Last week the 54 staff members sent a circular to all parents of pupils proposing a postponement of examinations to March next year because "only a fraction of the teaching syllabus has been covered."

The teachers said it would be imprudent for pupils to sit for exams at the moment and they would be able to cover most of the work missed so far during the early part of 1986.

"If needs be, we will lengthen the school day and not participate in the 1986 school sports."

The circular pointed out though that the proposals were subject to the "unconditional acceptance of the right of all our std [Standard] 10 pupils to write their final examinations at a later date".

Staff members said today that Mr. J.F. Rauch, relieving inspector of the department, arrived at the school last Friday and ordered a retraction of the circular, which the teachers refused.

Mr Rauch returned yesterday and with two more officials today, demanding that the teachers sign individual forms noting their refusal to administer examinations. This they also refused, and instead signed their names on the back of a copy of the circular which was sent to the department.

"The level of harassment is such that we were told to report to the office to sign these forms. We have been threatened and intimidated into attempting to start these farcical exams, which even on the admission of a department official is anti-educational," the teachers said. "We have defied the department's instructions and there is now a position of stalemate."

The department had since unilaterally sent letters to parents telling them that internal exams would start on Thursday.

With the term ending on November 27, it was "impossible and unfair" to expect pupils to write their examinations over the short period of five days. They said in many cases Standard six pupils were writing Standard nine examinations and that it "doesn't matter" to the department. "All they are interested in is to have the pupils going through the motions."

The department's liaison officer, Mr A.J.E. Jordan, today refused to comment "on instructions from higher up".

Police Report Unrest Situation, Arson, Arrests

19 Nov Evening Report

MB191903 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1840 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Pretoria, Nov 19, SAPA — Here is the 7 pm unrest situation report, issued by a spokesman for the SAP's Public Relations Division in Pretoria:

In the black residential area of Queenstown the charred body of a black male was found. A delivery vehicle was set alight, police and private vehicles were petrol-bombed and stoned and makeshift barricades were erected in the streets. The police had to on several occasions fire tearsmoke and shotguns to disperse groups. One black male was killed, four black males and one black female were wounded. Three black males were taken into custody.

In the black residential area of Molteno, in the Eastern Cape, a group of blacks set fire to a private house, damaging it. A black woman occupant of the house was slightly injured. Police dispersed the group with tearsmoke.

In another incident a black male was wounded when police fired birdshot and rubber bullets at a group of youths who stoned a police vehicle.

Two members of the SAP sustained slight knife wounds when trying to effect arrests during this incident.

In another incident of stone-throwing at police vehicles, 15 black men were arrested after police had fired rubber bullets to disperse a fairly large group.

Later four houses occupied by councillors were set alight and looted. Private motor vehicles were also set alight.

In another incident a beerhall was petrol-bombed and looted. Four members of the SAP were posted to guard the beerhall. The building was again attacked by a large group of blacks and extensively damaged. The SAP fired on the mob with birdshot. Three youths — one female and two males — were killed and one black male was wounded.

In Steenberg, in the Western Province, three private vehicles were stoned. Police arrested two black males.

20 Nov Morning Report

MB200722 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0721 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Pretoria, Nov 20, SAPA — Following is police unrest situation report to 8 am today issued by the public relations division of the SAP in Pretoria:

The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

In the black residential area of Queenstown, a black male and a black female were slightly wounded, medically treated and arrested following the stoning of police vehicles by a mob of blacks. In a further incident in the same area, police arrested four black males for attending an illegal gathering.

At Hanover, in the south-western Cape, police arrested seven black females and 10 black males, when they stoned a private home.

In Shoshanguve near Pretoria, police arrested six black males in connection with previous incidents of unrest in the area.

At Phillipi in the Western Cape, the Moslem Assembly Centre was petrol-bombed and extensively damaged.

Clashes in East Transvaal

MB191534 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] There have been fierce clashes between police and protestors in the Eastern Transvaal. The violence erupted as the residents of Leandra took to the streets in protest at the threatened removal of shack-dwellers in the township. Unconfirmed reports say at least three people have been shot, but this could not be confirmed officially.

The development board for the area says eviction notices have been sent to the shack-dwellers who are living on the edge of the township, but has denied that all residents are to be forcibly resettled. There have been plans in the past to remove the entire township, but those plans have now apparently been shelved.

Pondo-Zulu Fighting in Durban

MB200752 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0748 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Durban, Nov 20, SAPA — At least six people have been killed and scores injured in all-night faction fighting in the black shackland of Malukazi, near Isipingo, south of Durban's airport. This morning the situation was tense and hundreds were fleeing the sprawling settlement — a shackland inhabited by about 20000 Indians and Blacks.

Police said more than 2000 Pondos and Zulus were involved in fighting that began just before midnight. By early today, the bodies of six people — all stabbed to death — had been found. Three shacks belonging to Pondos were burned to the ground while four Zulu shacks were damaged. Eyewitnesses said the two groups clashed with knobkerries, sticks, knives and pangas. Police reported that although the situation was quiet today dozens of riot squad police were on standby.

A meeting between the leaders of the two groups and police was scheduled to take place later today.

Hundreds of residents fled their homes after fighting broke out between the two groups and early today residents carrying what they could were still on the streets. It is believed the two groups have been at loggerheads for over a year and fighting was sparked by an alleged assault on the Pondo chief of Malukazi, who was admitted to hospital yesterday with severe body injuries.

11 Killed in Durban

MB201317 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Calm has returned to the Malukazi shanty town near Durban, where 11 people were killed in sporadic clashes last night. Fighting erupted shortly before midnight between two groups, as Carmel Rickard reports.

Police picked up six bodies after the fighting, and say two of these were Pondo, and four Zulu. An official at King Edward VIII hospital in Durban told me there had been so far five bodies brought in today, certified dead on arrival. One injured person has been admitted to the hospital. Both the injured and the dead had been stabbed and chopped with pangas. A senior police officer told me there had been two battles. One broke out shortly before midnight over the stabbing of a Chief (Chiliza), leader of the Pondo group. That was over soon after midnight. A second fight erupted at about 0500 this morning. He said police had a meeting with about 1,000 people in the area this morning, at which they asked for a halt to the fighting, so that they could investigate the incident properly. He added that the area was now quiet but tense.

Fighting Not Political

MB201431 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1425 GMT 20 Nov 85

[Text] Durban, 20 Nov, SAPA — The death toll in the faction fighting between Zulus and Pondos which broke out at Malagazi near here last night stood at six, police said this afternoon. A spokesman said investigations were continuing and updated information would be released later today.

Captain Winston Heunis, police spokesman at Durban's C.R. Swart Squyare Headquarters, told SAPA it was quiet but tense at the Malagazi shackland where tribesmen attacked each other with a variety of weapons in all-night faction fighting.

"There is no indication that politics is involved," he said.

Talks held today between the police district commandant at Durban South, Captain, E. Bruwer, and leaders of the warring groups produced the assurance that peace would be mantained, Capt Heunis said.

Indians living in parts of Malagazi next to the Isipingo Indian area were not endangered, Capt Heunis added.

Further on Hospital Strike

MB191102 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1038 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 19, SAPA — Scores of the 1000 student nurses, auxiliary workers and cleaners who were fired from strike-torn Baragwanath Hospital yesterday started trickling out at 11 this morning after collecting their termination cheques.

Although about 500 of the student nursing body were still milling around the hospital grounds, many were already packing their bags in anticipation of their threatened eviction from the hospital.

The exodus this morning was monitored by SADF units who have been carrying out nursing and other duties at the hospital since a deadlock was reached in the strike now in its eighth day.

This morning, about 500 doctors, nurses, porters, cleaners and other auxiliary workers met at the hospital and resolved to send a petition to the superintendent, Dr Chris van den Heever, to "redress our grievances as a matter of urgency in the interests of the patients," a spokesman for the group told SAPA.

Workers' Dismissal Condemned

MB200509 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2157 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 19, SAPA — The Health Worker's Society of the Cape tonight condemned the action of the Transvaal authorities in dismissing over 900 student nurses and 800 non-classified workers at Baragwanath hospital. In a statement, a spokesman for the 150-member society, which was formed in 1980, said the authorities in the Transvaal had refused to accede to the legitimate demands of the workers, which included a decent living wage, better working conditions and the right to democratic worker representation.

"This high-handed action demonstrates the insensitivity and lack of understanding of the authorities to the needs of these most exploited workers of the health team," the statement said. Surveys have shown that the unclassified health workers are amongst the lowest-paid workers in South Africa. The recent increases in the cost of living are further eroding the living standards of these workers. Their dismissal is bound to have an adverse effect on patient care, hospital hygiene and the morale of other health workers. We question whether such action would have resulted if Baragwanath Hospital served white patients," the statement said.

"We demand the re-instatement of all the health workers unconditionally, and that their demands are met. We demand a more democratic health structure, with free, adequate and accessible health care facilities for all."

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

MB200745 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency and related topics:

Johannesburg *RAPPORT* in Afrikaans on 17 November says in an editorial that "the plan to allow blacks to participate in the President's Council has been taken a step further by the state president's announcement that the Council should debate the matter." "Apparently this is more than just a symbolic inclusion of blacks. The instruction is that the functions of the President's Council can develop into a constitutional forum that could advise parliament on our political structure," it says. It is hoped that this initiative will not be rejected by opposition groups and black leaders. It is a beginning, it adds, concluding: "This is a positive step by the state president and the consequences of the announcement should not be underestimated."

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 18 November says in an editorial that "tomorrow's summit talks in Geneva between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan do not hold much prospect for an agreement on the reduction of nuclear weapons." For South Africa the talks between the two superpowers on regional conflict is of more importance and immediate interest. Clashing superpower interests in, for example, Angola, destabilize the southern African region. "The South-West African issue is part of that conflict." The Soviet Union holds the key to Cuban presence in Angola and the withdrawal of the Cubans is an American precondition for a settlement in South-West Africa. South Africa itself is a contentious subject when it comes to discussing human rights, which is also on the agenda. "Whatever the results of the Geneva summit in the next few days, it is going to concern South Africa indirectly, and possibly directly," it concludes.

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 19 November says in an article "that the government's plans for future constitutional development in South Africa will probably be the central theme of today's National Party [NP] caucus meeting in Pretoria." The caucus is being held against the background of continued internal unrest, alleged impatience in certain NP circles that the government should spell out its reform plans more clearly, the weak economy, and increasing pressure from abroad. "Another matter which will probably be discussed today is the NP's showing in the recent by-elections," it says in conclusion.

In another article in the same issue, *BEELD* says "there are blacks who understand that a give-and-take process holds good in negotiation." Mr Ben Wilkens, deputy minister of development and land affairs, also told *BEELD* that the government's decision to abolish the forced removal and resettlement of blacks has already led to a spirit of mutual cooperation, that consolidation of black self-ruling states such as Kangwane and KwaZulu must continue, and that great strides have been made to teach black farmers matters such as soil conservation and effective farming methods. "From both sides there is an understanding that a give-and-take process is part of negotiation," the article concludes.

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 19 November carries a report by Jo-Anne Collinge which says: "Simmering discontent about the transfer of 120,000 Pedi people to KwaNdebele has come to a head as renewed pleas by Lebowa MPs for the Moutse area to remain part of Lebowa have been rejected." A Lebowa delegation met with Chris Heunis, minister of constitutional development and planning, and his two deputies Monday and have reported the government's refusal to reconsider the Moutse transfer, Collinge says. The Department of Constitutional Development has said "the Government would not be issuing any immediate statement." Moutse MP Maredi Choueu said, "until recently there had been virtually no violence in the area but just this week people who favoured KwaNdebele had been attacked and the elders feared they might be unable to contain further conflict."

In an editorial in the same edition, *THE STAR* notes that "A constructive alternative to disinvestment is planned by the leading American and South African companies which met in London last week to draw up a joint strategy to challenge apartheid." Pretoria should welcome this new initiative, the editorial says, and help sustain it by making its own political contribution. "Constructive engagement foundered as a policy precisely because Pretoria seemed to be doing more taking than giving. This new business initiative, launched as anti-apartheid fervour reaches new levels, must not be allowed to go the same way," it concludes.

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 19 November carried a report by Paul Bell on an interview with Chris Huenis which says Heunis "makes no apology — despite the clamour for a sign of progress in negotiations between white and black — for keeping the country in the dark." Heunis has made it clear that a new constitution giving political rights to blacks could not be negotiated in public: "Quite obviously the results must be announced, but I do not believe you must judge success or failure by the visibility or invisibility of negotiations. You must test them by the announcements which result."

Questioned as to who the government was negotiating with, Heunis said, "There are many leaders with whom we negotiate whose participation, if we have to publish their names, would be ended. I don't believe you or I can really appreciate the extent of intimidation, or understand the intensity of fear in black communities." He was not prepared to expose leaders who do not want to be exposed, Heunis said, or "paint myself or these leaders into a corner just for publicity's sake." Heunis told Bell "he had held talks with 'people who have radical views in opposition to my government' and he reiterated government's view that it would speak to any leader who rejected violence as a means to achieve political change."

He also criticized the "artificial perception" that the only credible black leaders were those who refused to negotiate with the government, Bell says. Heunis said he wished to "broaden the base of leadership" to include interest groups like business and the churches and draw them into the process of constitutional negotiations, Bell reports. He said he was more interested in receiving proposals on how to structure "meaningful black participation" than on general statements of principle from these groups. Bell asked Heunis whether the "attitudes adopted in public by the various parties to intended negotiation reflected what was happening at the level of so-called confidential negotiations."

Heunis replied: "There is a lot of posturing going on in every community, in every institution. People have constituencies. Government can only negotiate as far as it believes its own constituency can be persuaded to accept what is being negotiated. But I don't suggest, as far as government is concerned, that there is posturing in the sense that there is something we want to hide from the public." Heunis denied that the government's "so-called non-negotiables, like no fourth Chamber of Parliament, no unitary state, separate schools and residential areas" meant there really was not an open agenda for negotiations. "The fact that you have a view doesn't detract from the openness of the agenda. When one party says it wants one man, one vote in a unitary state and others say no, that doesn't close the meeting. You've got to get those parties together and see whether you can negotiate common ground among them."

Referring to the government's recent by-elections, Heunis said: "I believe that, under the circumstances, government did as well as it could, and I don't interpret the results as a stoppage of reform." Heunis refused to say what kind of constitutional structures he may have in mind, and repeated his "rejection of attempts to define SA's constitutional directions in terms of 'known Western models'," Bell says. As to powersharing with blacks, he said: "This process cannot have a time-clock on it. I believe reform is important, that the process should be expedited, but it would be presumptuous to put a time-tag on it."

Bell reports in the same edition that Nationalist sources did not expect "anything earth-shattering" to emerge from the National Party caucus this week. "A member of the caucus said yesterday that the body had decided before parliament rose in late June that it should meet more regularly. 'We are in a fluid situation — we need to review developments. The decision to hold this caucus meeting was taken well before the emergency, Rubicon and the rest'." The fact that no agenda was released for the caucus leaves open the possibility that Botha "may canvass his options in meeting demands that he accelerate reform," Bell says. Another issue which could be discussed is the question of repatriation of foreign black workers. "It is understood from Nationalist sources that there is increasing pressure from some homeland leaders for government to do this to create further job opportunities for SA blacks," Bell notes.

Joel Mervis, former editor of the Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES*, says in a column in the same edition that the current violent unrest "constitutes a deliberate protest against the apartheid laws; against the oppressive, restrictive impact; and also against so-called constitutional reforms." This widespread and persistent demonstration of anger deserved a sensible reaction from government, he says. "The sensible thing would surely have been for government to recognise the scope and seriousness of the unrest; to consult the leaders of the aggrieved groups; and then seek some way to alleviate their grievances and mollify their anger." Instead the government decided to meet violence with violence, he says, creating the dramatic news of the clash between the people and the government over apartheid. Then the government decided to stamp out the news of the event. "It should be

clear then that the new censorship cannot be based on any serious transgression by the SA Press. Quite the opposite. Censorship is envoked because the Press is doing its job all too accurately and all too well. It is the facts which need to be covered up." Mervis adds, "The imposition of censorship also raises the question of the extent to which government is losing its way." The priority should be to end the state of emergency and bring an end to the unrest, Mervis says, and "one can only marvel at the self-deception of a government which sees censorship as an aid to solving that problem."

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 19 November comments in its editorial on President Botha's removal of Boetie Abramjee from the Council of Ministers in the House of Delegates. "Everbody knows that coloured and Indian ministers have no power to effect change. The white government has the sole right to make decisive policy changes. We all know that. But the fallacy has been exposed almost dramatically by this single act. Now we know they are not only ineffective in terms of wielding power, they are also junior members of parliament who can be treated like a lot of schoolboys."

SWAZILAND

Foreign Minister Defends Ties With South Africa

MB151841 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, has appealed for bilateral aid from the Government of Switzerland to help Swaziland recuperate her damaged infrastructure caused by Cyclone Domoina 2 years ago. Welcoming the new ambassador from Switzerland accredited to Swaziland, Mr Jean Olivier Quinche, in his office today, Mr Mnisi went on and stated that he was not interested in multilateral assistance because the big countries have a tendency of taking a big share before the aid reaches small countries like Swaziland.

The minister further explained to the new ambassador that the country is facing a lot of economic problems, especially at the university. Mr Mnisi stated that the university has been hit hard because Swaziland has no funds to run such a large institution and to crown it all, there is a whole shortage of lectures at the university.

On the issue of sanctions against South Africa, the foreign minister said Swaziland is in no way going to support the sanctions against South Africa because we depend on South Africa, especially because our customs union is tied to South Africa, and also our monetary system. He said for instance, the value of the lilangeni had gone down because we are tied to the South African rand.

Mr Mnisi further stated that in times of trouble, South Africa is the first country to take the initiative and offer assistance as they are our neighbor. He continued and said many countries are busy accusing Swaziland of being a puppet to South Africa, but there is nothing they can do for Swaziland instead of shouting. Further, he said, this country cannot do without South Africa in terms of exporting goods to our markets because we are a land-locked country. Mozambique cannot let us pass our goods all the time through their ports.

The minister further said Swaziland is against the apartheid rule in South Africa, but there is nothing she can do except congratulate South Africa whenever they changed some of their laws. He said by congratulating South Africa, anyway you encourage that country to do better to change its system.

Replying, the Swiss ambassador states that he understood the economic problems faced by Swaziland. He promised to send teachers to teach at the University of Swaziland. Mr Quinche also said Switzerland, as a small country, cannot be involved in big programs for all the countries but can only give aid through international agencies like the United Nations Development Fund based in Abidjan. The ambassador is expected to leave for Pretoria tomorrow.

ZIMBABWE

President Banana Receives Romanian Delegation

MB190518 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, says Zimbabwe and Romania share a similar stand which contributes to international peace and security.

Comrade Banana was speaking when a five-member Romanian delegation paid a courtesy call on him at the Government House in Harare today.

The president also paid tribute to the Romanian president Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's stand within the Nonaligned Movement. Comrade Banana also spoke about the importance of furthering the existing friendly relations between Zimbabwe and Romania.

In reply, the vice chairman of the Romanian Grand Assembly, Comrade Iosif Szasz, talked about the need to expand relations, saying that recent top-level talks had played a significant role in improving both political and economic relations.

He pledged Romania's willingness to help Zimbabwe host next year's summit meeting of the Nonaligned Movement.

He extended Romania's invitation to Comrade Banana and his wife to visit that country.

The delegation is expected to leave Harare tonight, after holding talks with Trade and Foreign Ministry officials.

Police Storm Court Buildings; Hold Arson Suspect

MB200819 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0815 GMT
20 Nov 85

[Text] Harare, Nov 20, SAPA — More than 40 armed police, some with dogs, stormed the Harare magistrates court building

yesterday and held a man suspected of setting fire to furniture and equipment in 16 courtrooms the previous day. He was spotted in the building at lunchtime by police who chased him through the complex and finally trapped him while he was trying to hide on top of a lift. The man was due to appear before a magistrate yesterday on 20 allegations of housebreaking and theft, including car theft. He had already appeared before a magistrate charged with breaking into the magistrates court and stealing eight case dockets and was on bail on these charges at the time of the fire. When he failed to appear yesterday a warrant was issued for his arrest.